

NEWS ROUNDUP

Police surround depot gunman

Armed police in Exeter last night surrounded an electricity board depot where a man complaining about the disruption of his supply entered brandishing a shotgun.

Three hundred staff were taken from the building on the Sowton industrial estate and people from a near by superstore were also led to safety.

Police negotiators were called in to try to talk the gunman into giving himself up.

Police said: "The gentleman is in dispute with the South Western Electricity Board concerning his supply, which has been interrupted."

"He is in possession of a shotgun."

Irish painting claim

A man who claims a gallery valued a painting by one of Ireland's foremost 20th century artists at less than a third of its true price asked the High Court yesterday to order the work to be returned to him. Mr Bernard Jaffa, of Belfast, claimed "Meeting the Dawn", by Jack Butler Yeats, which he bought for £22,000 in October 1988, was worth £190,000. The Taylor Gallery, of Old Bond Street, London, which claimed it was the legal owner, said the painting was valued at £60,000.

Opt-out plan opposed

Staff at a leading London teaching hospital have voted overwhelmingly against the hospital opting out of health authority control (Jill Sherman writes). At St Thomas's Hospital, 550 members of staff (18 per cent of those who voted) were in favour of the hospital becoming self-governing and 2,499 were against. The turnout was 56 per cent. Mr Kenneth Clark, Secretary of State for Health, has said that such ballots will not be formally recognized.

Anglo-Irish meeting

Politicians from Britain and Ireland last night urged Unionist MPs to take their seats on a new British-Irish inter-parliamentary body meeting at Westminster (Richard Ford writes). Two seats on the fifty-strong body have been allocated to the Unionists, who are boycotting it because they claim it is part of the Anglo-Irish Agreement that gives the Irish Republic a consultative role in Northern Ireland. The inauguration of the body yesterday marked the first time since 1918 that Irish MPs have walked through the Central Lobby at Westminster for Anglo-Irish discussions.

£612,000 damages

A boy aged five who is severely brain damaged because of a medical blunder at birth was awarded £612,000 agreed damages at the High Court yesterday. The award to Luke Vigh, of Alvaston, Derby, was against Southern Derbyshire Health Authority, which admitted liability in an action brought by his mother Georgina. Mrs Margaret Puxon, QC, told Mr Justice Webster that complications which arose during Luke's birth at Derby City Hospital were neglected.

Vet services go private

The Central Veterinary Laboratory, which is leading research into the mad-cow disease bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), and the Veterinary Medicines Directorate, both at Weybridge, Surrey, will become executive agencies on April 2 (Pearce Wright writes). The move, the first stage of the privatization of government veterinary services, was announced by Mr John Gummer, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food yesterday.

Lozenge rival banned

The maker of Fisherman's Friend throat lozenges yesterday saw off a rival in the High Court. Lofwood, of Fleetwood, Lancashire, obtained a permanent injunction to keep a proposed Bosun's Mate lozenge off the market.

Propaganda move on poll tax rebates

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Ministers are to intensify efforts to pin the blame on local authorities for this year's high community charge levels. When the high-pending authorities are "charge-capped", ministers hope to win back some kudos from the electorate by emphasizing it was government action that has won the rebates from what will be presented as profligate local authorities.

Ministers are emphasizing privately that there is no time limit on the charge-capping action and Whitehall sources indicated last night that local authorities would be forced to give rebates to poll tax payers who had been overcharged.

Shire counties have to announce their rebates by early next month and district councils have until March 18 to notify the Department of the Environment of their planned poll tax levels.

Mr David Hunt, Minister for Local Government, then plans to move swiftly in deciding which councils will have their charges capped. It was confirmed in Whitehall last night that he does not have to do so by the time payers begin to receive community charge bills in April.

Mr Hunt yesterday said high-community charges were the result not of government action but of local authority spending decisions.

He urged councils to explain what revenue increases they were planning in fixing their charges and said the indications were that more than half the shire counties were planning increases of over 15 per cent in their

revenue, with some by over 20 per cent.

Mr Hunt said: "The community charge, really, does mean for the first time that the party is over. Local authorities are trying to spend up, to set a higher line for future spending, and we are not prepared to tolerate it."

Government sources last night firmly denied the suggestion that fire and police services might be taken off the local government spending bill and their financing taken over in full by central government to lower poll tax levels next year.

It was pointed out that 51 per cent of the finance for the police already came from specific central government expenditure, with another proportion paid for by the revenue support grant from the Treasury. Loading increases on to the taxpayer would not be compatible with the Government's expressed aim of continuing to reduce the standard rate of income tax.

A local Labour party has vowed not to prosecute people who do not pay their community charge if it wins power in the May council elections.

Such a move, which would be illegal, also runs counter to national party policy, which is to oppose the tax, but does not advocate non-collection or not prosecuting those who do not pay.

Mr Phil Maxwell, leader of London's Tower Hamlets Labour group, said yesterday his local party was adamant about the decision, which was proving popular with the electorate.

Gordievsky reveals KGB's disinformation plot

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

Fake political pamphlets critical of Mrs Margaret Thatcher and President Reagan were secretly circulated by the Soviet KGB in the early 1980s, according to the Soviet defector Oleg Gordievsky.

Mr Gordievsky discloses in *The Times* today that as a KGB desk officer dealing with Britain in the early 1980s he handled disinformation material aimed at discrediting Mrs Thatcher, which was sent to "agents of influence" who would publish it under their own names. Mr Gordievsky, the former KGB resident chief in London and double

agent for MI6 for 13 years before he defected in 1985, wore a false beard and moustache and a wig to disguise himself on a BBC TV *Panorama* interview last night. A former KGB colonel who was approached by MI6 in 1972 in Copenhagen, he said last night he now felt very British. He enjoyed reading the Sunday newspapers and liked gardening.

In three interviews, to *The Times*, *Time* magazine and *Panorama*, Mr Gordievsky refused to give details of how he escaped from Moscow to the West. He revealed that he crossed the Soviet border with his KGB ID card still in his pocket.

Yet only a few days before he had

been interrogated by agents who dragged him first and then questioned him about his contacts in Britain. Mr Gordievsky said that in spite of the drugs, he did not give anything away because he had been "psychologically prepared".

He disclosed in the BBC interview that at an earlier time when he was in Moscow, he was one of seven senior KGB men summoned to discuss the possibility of a spy at high level. Harold "Kim" Philby, the MI6 traitor in Moscow, had advised the KGB that the spy was probably in their ranks and not in the Foreign Ministry. Mr Gordievsky said he had to use great self-

restraint "not to blush" and give himself away.

He said he thought that the KGB had favoured Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, now President, for the Soviet leadership in 1985. He had noticed that the KGB went to extra trouble to obtain and present high-quality confidential briefings for him.

Mr Gordievsky, who worked on the KGB's British desk in Moscow and later at the Soviet Embassy in London before being appointed the station chief, rejected allegations that the late Sir Roger Hollis, director-general of MI5 from 1956 to 1965, was a KGB mole. He also denied that Mr Graham Mitchell,

deputy director-general of MI5 in 1963, had worked for the Russians. He added, in his interview with *Time* magazine: "The British and American services were, I believe, clean at the time of my escape. I can't guarantee it, of course, particularly on the American side..."

"But on the British side, I am pretty sure they remain clean. With the so-called illegals - KGB officers using a foreign identity - it is different. I understand they were all withdrawn from Britain because of me when I escaped. But in the four and half years since, they may have restored that presence."

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Army steps up security at 'soft' targets after attack

By Peter Davenport and Quentin Cowley

Security at "soft" military targets on mainland Britain was increased yesterday as police investigated Sunday night's bomb attack on an Army recruiting office in Halifax, West Yorkshire.

Police are convinced the explosion, which occurred at about 11.10pm, was the work of the IRA although the bomb was relatively small and caused no injuries.

The attack was said yesterday to have "raised eyebrows" among security officials. Since the IRA renewed its mainland campaign in August 1988 strikes have been geared to killing and maiming service personnel.

It was pointed out, though, that over the years the IRA had frequently varied its tactics. "There is never a continuous single approach," one expert said.

The explosion which wrecked the office came five days after the IRA bombing of an Army van in Leicester which injured two soldiers.

Up to 1lb of commercial explosive was pushed through the letterbox of the recruiting office in New Road, Halifax, after it closed for the weekend at 4.30pm on Friday. The explosion scattered debris over a wide area.

Det Chief Supt John Conboy, head of West Yorkshire CID, yesterday talked to the officer in charge of the Leicester investigation but

said it was too early to say whether the incidents were connected.

Members of the Anti-Terrorist Squad from Scotland Yard travelled to Halifax yesterday to liaise with local police, forensic scientists and members of an Army bomb disposal team.

Streets surrounding the office were sealed off and are likely to remain out of bounds for three days while debris is examined.

The recruiting office, one of 170 on the mainland, is manned by a sergeant major and a sergeant. One of them visited the office at 6pm on Sunday but did not examine the letter box.

Police yesterday appealed for anyone who may have legitimately posted a letter or parcel through the recruiting office door between 4.30pm on Friday and Sunday night to come forward.

They also asked for information from members of the public who may have seen someone near the office between the relevant times.

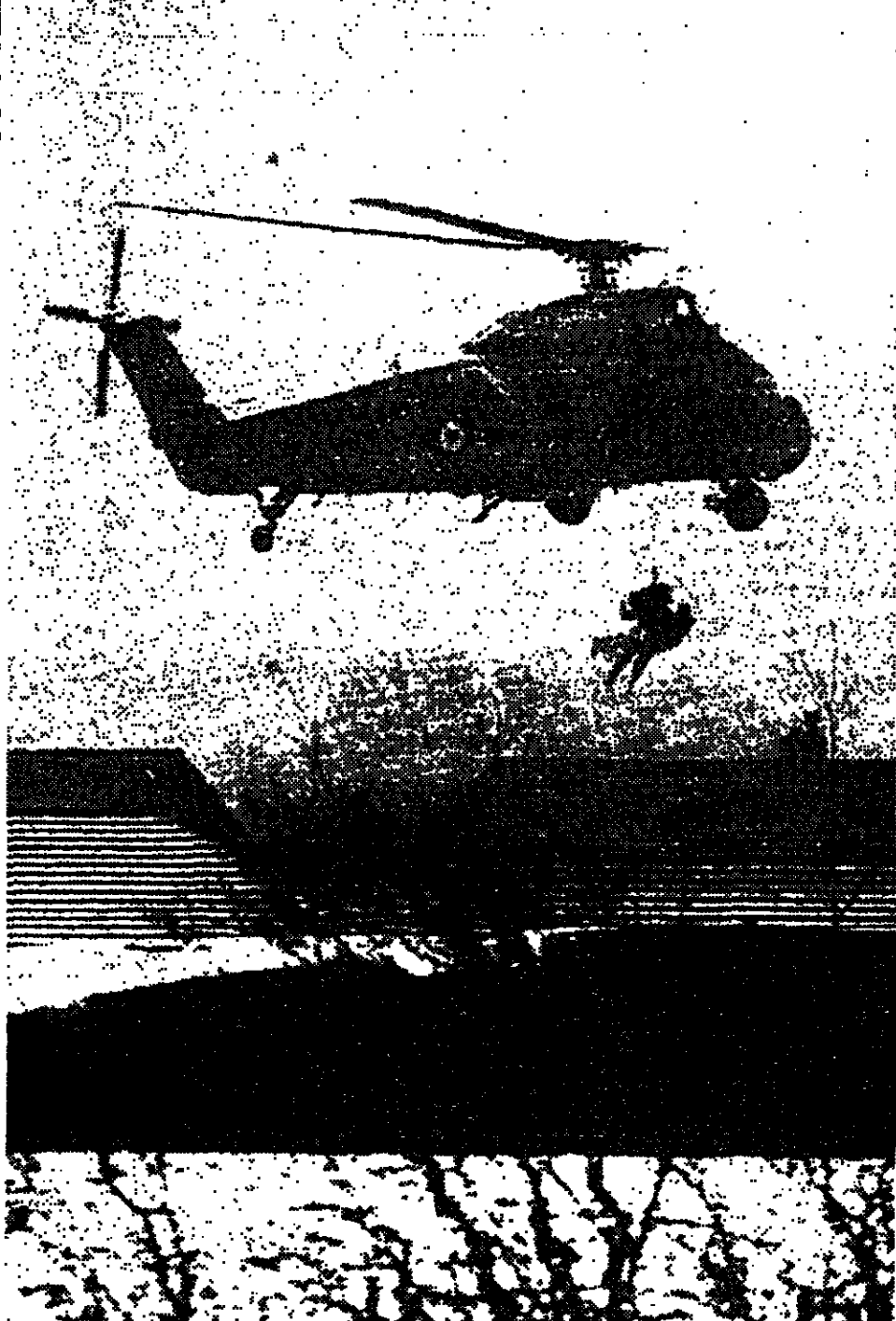
Mr Conboy said the Army had introduced new security arrangements after the Leicester attack but he declined to specify the measures.

The Ministry of Defence, which was severely criticized at the start of the IRA's new mainland campaign for slack security at many bases, refused to discuss what measures had been taken.

Wild winds 'fit wider picture'

PHIL RICHARDS

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor



An RAF helicopter rescuing people from rooftops at Towyn, Clwyd, after flooding.

Weather experts dismissed yesterday the idea that there was anything abnormal about the gales of the past 48 hours that battered parts of Britain, France, The Netherlands and Germany.

Preliminary analysis by the Meteorological Office, at Bracknell, Berkshire, has identified seven other occasions in the past 35 years in which Britain suffered prolonged bouts of windy weather comparable to the one that began a month ago, on January 25.

Like the others, the depression responsible for the latest storm began off the eastern seaboard of America when a very cold air stream from the Arctic collided with moist, warmer air from the south.

However, according to Dr Roger Hunt, at the Meteorological Office, the jet stream in the upper atmosphere, which guides weather systems round the globe, steered the subsequent depression much further south than usual.

Average fortnightly wind speeds in late January and February recorded by the Meteorological Office were the highest for 30 years.

A survey of wind speeds at Heathrow airport, London, showed an average of 17mph over 14 days from January 25, the highest recorded since March 1960.

Dr Hunt discounted suggestions that the persistent high winds were the result of the greenhouse effect or of shorter-term transient warming of the atmosphere caused by the activity of the Sun, at a peak in the 11-year sunspot cycle.

He said that it was common for a pattern of weather to seem to have become "stuck".

He did not believe that the greenhouse effect could yet be singled out as the culprit for the vagaries of the climate.

Defiant ambulance crew strikers 'put lives at risk'

By Jamie Dettmer

Militant ambulance crews on Merseyside were accused yesterday of putting lives at risk by going ahead with an all-out strike in defiance of their national union leaders.

Their opposition to the pay offer, agreed after 20 hours of talks on Friday between health service and union negotiators, was supported by crews in Oxfordshire, who voted overwhelmingly to reject the deal.

Managers in Liverpool attacked striking crews for "endangering lives" after a police van had to take a critically ill baby to hospital.

They said an alternative service operated by striking ambulancemen was not working efficiently.

Mr Alan Kennedy, the assistant chief ambulance officer, said: "This

has made us extremely angry here at headquarters."

Union leaders were still confident yesterday that most of the 22,500 ambulance workers would vote in favour of the deal, which the Department of Health says will give crews a 16.9 per cent rise over three years.

The ballot papers were being printed yesterday and will be sent to regional union officials by the end of the week. The papers will be accompanied by letters from the national leaders urging a "yes" vote. The result is expected on March 13.

Oxfordshire crews yesterday described the offer as "miserable" and called on Mr Roger Poole, the chief union negotiator, to go back to the health service and demand a better deal. Mr Nick Vannozzi, an Oxford-

shire union leader, said: "He is out of touch with what we want and should now go back to renegotiate the deal."

"The money is no improvement on what we have already rejected. The feeling is that the health service has just rewarded the package and we are absolutely disgusted with Roger Poole for recommending the deal to us."

In the South-west some crews are expected to continue their action until after the ballot.

Mr Paul Dunn, National Union of Public Employees' divisional officer for the South-west, said: "The general view is that while the pay offer was good, most would have preferred a long-term pay formula for the future. Some crews in Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire,

Avon and Dorset will continue to take action until after the ballot, but generally the members felt the offer would be accepted in the end."

In Merseyside, where only seven out of 520 ambulancemen turned up for work, the war of words between striking crews and management was fierce, with each side accusing the other of risking lives.

"They have been given a good pay offer of £13,000 a year and they are messing around with a so-called alternative ambulance service while we have got people who are dying," Mr Kennedy said.

Mr Frank Wardale, a striking ambulanceman organizing the alternative service, said: "We will respond to any calls that come through our number."

"We have already told Mr Ken-

nedy - if he is stuck, just give us a buzz."

Merseyside police said their 12 ambulances were called out 38 times in the first four hours yesterday, mainly to attend to accidents caused by gale-force winds. At one point they were called to an old people's home, where an elderly woman was having difficulty breathing, but she was dead when they arrived.

The union's alternative service said it had been called out twice.

Nupe, the main union in the dispute, confirmed it had paid out more than £1 million in dispute and assistance pay to its members over the past six months but denied this had caused a cash crisis.

In north-west London, crews from 11 stations refused to answer emergency calls.

Labour seeks public transport boost to cut traffic

By Michael Dynes, Transport Correspondent

Ambitious proposals to reduce vehicle usage in urban areas are included in a Labour Party transport policy document unveiled yesterday by Mrs Joan Ruddock, the shadow transport spokeswoman.

The report, *Time For A 'U' Turn*, a critique of the Department of Transport's controversial London Assessment Studies for new roads, challenges the wisdom of building additional road space to meet expected increases in vehicles.

Calling for the abandonment of the present philosophy, which critics say encourages vehicles to expand to fill the road space available, the document urges the intro-

duction of measures offering an effective alternative to private transport.

The package includes increased spending on public transport, encouraging greater use of under-used British Rail commuter services, increasing existing rail capacity by extending platforms and introducing longer trains, extensive use of traffic calming techniques and encouraging people to opt for public transport where possible.

Mrs Ruddock said Labour would reverse the government policy of reducing British Rail's annual subsidy, which had resulted in successive fare increases that were acting as a

"major deterrent to using public transport".

Accepting that it was not possible to "take a train to Sainsbury's", and that many journeys could be made only by car, Mrs Ruddock said Labour was not prepared to consider restrictions on car ownership.

Mrs Ruddock said Labour's "package approach" was supported by a recent motoring survey showing that while 17 per cent of motorists approved of new road schemes to reduce congestion, 75 per cent advocated increased spending on public transport.

Mrs Ruddock accepted, however, that there was a need for

some new roads in certain areas.

Mrs Ruddock accepted the need for some new roads, particularly in areas such as the docklands, east London. However, "where feasible, we will link A to B by means other than roads. Where there is a need for a road, environment and safety will be high on our list of criteria," she added.

The cost of proposals to put some of the more sensitive roads in tunnel, in an effort to preserve valuable open spaces, have been under estimated by up to 300 per cent, Mrs Ruddock said. "The Assessment Studies estimate the tunnels at around £100 mil-

lion per mile, which likely to be nearer £300 million a mile," she added.

Mrs Ruddock also criticized Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Transport, for adopting a "piecemeal approach" to environmental questions, and of failing to appreciate the long-term consequences of the increase in vehicle emissions accompanying the anticipated increases in traffic volumes.

The two-month consultation period for the London Assessment Studies ends tomorrow. Mr Parkinson is expected to announce which of the remaining road schemes are likely to be approved.

Judge puts in plea for mentally ill

By Jill Sherman
Social Services
Correspondent

A senior judge yesterday expressed concern about the release from hospital into the community of potentially dangerous patients who relied on medication.

"The public is becoming increasingly aware of offences being committed by people who have only recently been discharged from a mental hospital," Judge Lyndberg, QC, said at the Central Criminal Court.

He made the remarks while hearing a case of a mentally ill man who had repeatedly bludgeoned his father about the head with a hammer after he had stopped taking his medication.

Recent reports have said that mentally ill people who have left hospital are ending up in hostels, bedsits or on the streets, with no contact with health or social services.

Donaldson calls for Bar's cab-rank rule to apply to all solicitors

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

Solicitors should be subject to the barristers' "cab-rank" rule under which they must take whatever case comes along, including the unpopular ones, Lord Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, said last night.

That would apply not only to solicitor-advocates - a change just agreed by the House of Lords - but also to other aspects of solicitor's work, such as case preparation, Lord Donaldson said.

His remarks will cause great concern to the Law Society which believes solicitors must be free to refuse cases.

Lord Donaldson, speaking in

London, at University College's Benthams Club, went on to urge the expulsion of barristers breaking the rule.

"I know that there are a handful of barristers who I suspect of breaking the rule, but I hope and believe that they are very few," he said.

Lord Donaldson's remarks come in the wake of a defeat for the Government in the Lords on an amendment to its Courts and Legal Services Bill. Peers voted to oblige solicitor-advocates - who are intended to achieve advocacy rights in the higher courts under the Bill - to be bound by the cab-rank rule.

Lord Donaldson, however, said that amendment did not go far

enough. It is thought he had in mind the recent case in which two firms of solicitors declined to act for a man accused of rape.

Although the so-called cab-rank rule was not perfect, it was "profoundly important and profoundly simple," Lord Donaldson said.

Lord Donaldson said: "We cannot have a situation in which someone accused of some horrible crime has to satisfy his barrister that he is innocent before that barrister will represent him."

"That would make a mockery of equality under the law."

He went on: "Valuable though the cab-rank rule is, its value is diminished if the citizen has difficulty in finding a solicitor who will

prepare his case and instruct the barrister."

"And that difficulty does exist for the rule does not apply to solicitors in their traditional capacity of 'conductors of litigation', to use the Bill's terminology."

The Government's proposed legal reforms provided a chance to refurbish the system and give it a "de-coke" which is long overdue."

A retired solicitor who sued the Law Society up to the House of Lords in 1982 comes before the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal today for judgement in a complaint lodged against him more than six years ago. Mr James Swain, who retired in July 1987, has been prevented from removing his name

from the Roll so that the proceedings can be concluded.

It is expected that the tribunal will find against him today and rule that he was guilty of conduct unbecoming a solicitor, even though he has not practised for three years. He could be formally suspended.

Mr Swain, who is 65, formerly senior partner of Blackett Gill and Swain, said: "It hardly seems to be a coincidence that I sued the Law Society up to the House of Lords and cost them a considerable sum of money in costs; and now I am being brought before the tribunal."

The complaint, first made in 1983, was made by a Bristol firm of solicitors, Trump and Partners, on behalf of a client who had invested

some £90,000 in an oil deal, which turned out to be bogus, allegedly on the strength of letters written by Mr Swain.

The letters were described by Mr Justice Henry in related court proceedings as "letters of comfort". An out-of-court settlement of £50,000 was made to the client by the insurers for solicitors' negligence, London Insurance Brokers.

Mr Swain, who says he wrote his letters "in good faith", brought an action against the society over its then insurance indemnity scheme. Yesterday, the Solicitors' Complaints Bureau said that once proceedings had begun against a solicitor, the name could not be removed from the Roll.

M25 gang convicted

Fast escape route used in murder and robbery trail

By Ray Clancy

Three men who earned notoriety as the M25 gang were convicted yesterday of murder, rape and robbery during a rampage through the Surrey stockbroker belt.

The three, who used the orbital motorway round London as a fast escape route, all face a minimum sentence of life imprisonment.

The men, aged 21, 23 and 25, who cannot be named because they face further trials, were found guilty at the Central Criminal Court of murder, three counts of robbery and causing grievous bodily harm with intent. They will be sentenced on Friday.

The eldest defendant was led to the cells forcibly after refusing to sit down, apparently stunned by the verdicts.

The court was told they carried out a night of "horrific rampages", masked and armed with guns and knives, on December 16, 1988. They left Mr Peter Hurlbrough, a hairdresser from Croydon, south London, dead, and a robbery victim, Mr Timothy Napier, close to death.

The men, in a stolen car, came upon Mr Hurlbrough, aged 57, in his Austin Princess car parked in a field at Black Man's Lane, Cheltenham, Surrey. Mr Hurlbrough, who had a heart condition, was ordered from the car, trussed

up, badly beaten about the head and chest and kicked. He died later.

Then the robbers stole £10 from Mr Alan Ely, aged 20, who was with Mr Hurlbrough, and drove off in the Princess car.

From there they went to a house at Woodhouse Lane, Otford, Surrey, where Mr Richard Napier, aged 66, a retired businessman, and his wife Margaret, aged 65, lived. At the time their son Timothy, aged 41, was staying with them.

Father and son tried to "have a go" and managed to hold the raiders behind a glass door. But the intruders slashed at Timothy Napier, severing an artery in his left arm.

Despite losing his strength rapidly, he managed to dial 999 - but was so weak the operator could hear heavy breathing. Police managed to trace the call to the house.

The third target was the home of Mrs Rosemary Spicer at Hillyfield Lane, Fetcham, Surrey, where the gang arrived at 5.30am. She and her friend, Mr Peter Almond, aged 36, were woken at gunpoint and tied up while the gang ransacked the house, taking jewellery, credit cards, cheque books and other property. The robbers took both the

couples' cars and returned to their base in south London.

The jury unanimously convicted all three of murdering Mr Hurlbrough, robbing Mr Ely, of £10; causing grievous bodily harm with intent to Mr Napier, robbing the Napier home and of a second robbery at the home of Mrs Spicer. On the direction of the judge, they formally acquitted the three of attempting to murder Mr Napier.

Asking for an adjournment, Mr Julian Bevan, for the prosecution, said one of the three convicted men was facing a charge of attempting to murder a policeman near Dartford, Kent, on January 6 last year. A fourth man, who was not in the dock yesterday, faces two charges of robbery.

The remaining two men convicted had pleaded guilty to robbery and one had additionally admitted rape. But in each of their cases, no further trial was likely.

Mr Bevan asked Mr Justice Auld to adjourn the case until Friday while it was decided how next to proceed against the three and against a fourth man.

The convictions came at the end of a six-week trial. Two of the men have previously admitted their involvement in the rape of a 32-year-old woman in December 1988.

Perrier pledges to recycle reject bottles

By Michael McCarthy
Environment Correspondent

The UK distributors of Perrier water last night said they would recycle all the 40 million distinctive green glass bottles they ordered to be destroyed 10 days after traces of benzene were found in the water.

The company had earlier said that half of the bottles would have to be crushed and disposed of in landfill sites, as there was not enough recycling capacity in Britain to cope with them under the company's own deadline of one month.

However, after criticism from environmental pressure groups, the company announced that the glass from the 20 million bottles sent for crushing would be recovered from storage at landfill sites later this year and be sent on for recycling.

"We are delighted that we have found a solution," said Mrs Wende Marshall Foster, the chairman of Perrier UK. "We are a highly-responsible company."

Friends of the Earth said yesterday that not to have recycled the bottles would have been "a dreadful waste of a perfectly good resource".

Mr Blake Lee-Harwood, of the group, said: "We are very pleased Perrier are doing this. 'Now perhaps they will recycle all their bottles when they start putting them back into the shops.' This is a challenge they should rise to."

The millions of Perrier bottles being recalled all over Europe are being recycled, the company said.

It could not comment on what was happening with Perrier bottles in the United States.



Rejected Perrier bottles are bulldozed at a dump in Thorpe, Surrey. Perrier now says all bottles will eventually be recycled.

Sanderson 'whistled at owner of gym'

A fitness instructor yesterday said that her former lover, Mr Derrick Evans, had claimed that he met Miss Tessa Sanderson, the athlete, after she had whistled at him.

Mrs Terry Clarke, who used to work at Mr Evans' gym and who said she had had an affair with him, told the High Court that the incident had taken place in the bar park of the north London gym.

She said that Mr Evans, aged 37, a fitness instructor, had told her that Miss Sanderson had whistled at him as he went to a car and that was how they had met.

Mrs Clarke was giving evidence on the sixth day of a libel action brought by Miss Sanderson, the Olympic and Commonwealth javelin champion, against the publisher of the *Sunday Mirror* and *The People* over articles last March that alleged that she stole Mr Evans from his wife, Jewel.

Earlier in the hearing, Miss Sanderson, aged 33, had said that she did not know how to whistled.

Mrs Clarke also claimed that Mr Evans had told her that "Tee and Dee" on the nameplate at the gym stood for Tessa and Derrick. When she realized that they were in business together she "did not want to believe it". "I did not want to be squeezed out," she said.

Mrs Clarke admitted speaking to Mrs Evans about the affair between Miss Sanderson and Mr Evans, who live together at Brondesbury Park, north-west London. She described Mrs Evans as a "very distressed and unhappy lady".

Mrs Clarke said that her relationship with Mr Evans had broken up in July 1988 and she had walked out of the business.

Mr Steven Warr, a journalist, told the court that he had spoken to Mr Leon Hickman, the ghost writer for Miss Sanderson's autobiography. He had hoped that Mr Hickman would "dish the dirt" on Tessa, but he had refused.

Mr Richard Hartley, QC, for Miss Sanderson, suggested that Mr Warr had been "mesmerized" by Mrs Evans. He said: "You swallowed her story book, line and sinker."

Mirror Group Newspapers, Mr Warr and Sandra White, another journalist, deny libel. The case continues.

US surgery helps cerebral palsy boy

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

A crippled British boy is learning to walk unaided after complex operations on his legs were made possible by a pioneering "movement laboratory" in the United States.

A £1 million appeal has been launched to open a similar centre for disabled children at a London hospital.

The boy, Emmett de Montigny, aged 13, of Lewisham, south London, was born with deformed limbs caused by cerebral palsy. Surgeons in America broke his legs in five places and transferred seven of his leg muscles to correct the deformities.

They did so by following a precise blueprint of his movement disorders, provided by computerized measuring equipment, at the Newington Children's Hospital in Hartford, Connecticut.

The hospital's movement laboratory is regarded as the world's leading centre of its kind. It uses electrodes attached to muscles and infrared cameras to produce computerized, three-dimensional data on the movements of the pelvis and each of the joints of the lower limbs.

After six months of physiotherapy, Emmett has almost

no need for crutches and can play a gentle game of football, although he still uses a walking stick. "I can walk a lot better now and use much less energy," he said yesterday.

He said he hoped that thousands of other cerebral palsy sufferers could be helped by the One Small Step charity, which took him to America and is now raising funds for the British centre, to be based at Guy's Hospital, London.

The appeal was launched by Professor Brian Neville, head of neurology and developmental paediatrics at the Institute of Child Health, London. Professor Neville, who arranged for Emmett's treatment and went to America with him, said: "The movement laboratory has done a lot to get him on his feet. He has a much better style of walking now and is much more upright. He should make further improvements."

Professor Neville said the new unit could be operational by the end of this year. It would pioneer orthopaedic surgery in cerebral palsy for the benefit of disabled children and be a national centre for research and teaching.

Blasphemy ruling sought Rushdie book 'brought 30 deaths'

By Robin Young

Mr Salman Rushdie's book, *The Satanic Verses*, had struck at the core of Muslim society in Britain, fomented violent demonstrations all round the world and occasioned the death of 30 people and the injury of many more, it was claimed in the High Court yesterday.

Mr Ali Mohammed Azhar, representing the British Muslim Action Front and its convener, Mr Abdal Choudhury, was asking Lord Justice Watkins, Lord Justice Stuart-Smith and Lord Justice Roch to overturn a decision by the chief metropolitan magistrate, Sir David Hopkin, that Mr Rushdie and his publishers, Viking, could not be summoned for blasphemy.

Mr Azhar argued that Islam was so closely related to Christianity, and the Old and New Testaments so much a part of the Muslim religion that the same protection should be extended to Islam as to Christianity.

He said he read extracts from Mr Rushdie's book only as part of his professional duty and with reluctance. He would not mention some of the abusive four-letter words frequently used in the book

because he considered repeating them a sin.

He said that passages in the book were "an abuse and insult to God the Deity, an abuse and insult to the religion of Christianity, an abuse and insult to the religion of Islam, and an abuse and insult to the religion of Judaism".

Mr Azhar said Muslims had lived peacefully in Britain for 150 years, but had now gone on to the streets in their thousands in protest at Mr Rushdie's "deeply insulting" book and "to demonstrate their feelings to the British public and to the authorities that something must be done".

Mr Azhar said the Jewish faith was in effect protected by the blasphemy laws since any attack on the Old Testament was considered to be an attack on Christianity. "Islam being so closely related, my question is why cannot the same protection be accorded to the Holy Koran?"

Mr Azhar said the magistrate should have taken into account that the Old and New Testaments were both holy books to Muslims. Blasphemy was an offence between the "creature and the

creator". It was an offence against God and not limited to Jesus Christ and Christianity.

Mr Azhar said any insult to the Koran or any denunciation of it "strikes at the root of Muslim society". Lord Justice Watkins intervened: "You can criticize, can't you?"

Mr Azhar: "There have been many books criticizing the Koran in all languages. Muslims do not pay any attention to it. But when it is vilified in a scurrilous form, then it hurts."

The judge commented: "It would be absurd to suggest that nobody could criticize the

Koran and equally absurd to suggest that nobody could criticize the Old or New Testament."

Counsel said he was not asking the court to create new laws, but simply to accept the existence of a common law of blasphemy which was applicable to the "changing circumstances of society".

He agreed with the judge's description of his case being a "shifting sand". The common law should cope with the problems of the common people, he said, and in Britain they now included Muslims.

The Koran represented a complete code of conduct for Muslims, but if they did not believe in the Old and New Testaments "we cease to be Muslims". It was as closely inter-related as that.

Lord Justice Watkins then asked: "What about Christ rising from the dead?" Counsel: "We also believe that he was raised from the dead."

During the hearing the judges followed Mr Azhar's quotations from the Koran - using translations.

The hearing continues today and is expected to last all week.



Mr Azhar with a copy of the book yesterday

PORTFOLIO A wedding gift from winnings

There were two winners of yesterday's £4,000 Portfolio Platinum competition.

"At my age, I no longer need much money for myself," Mrs Ann McEvoy, aged 84, of Stevenston, Strathclyde, said. "My eldest grandchild, Gabriella, is 23 and getting married in June, so I shall spend some of it on a present for her."

Mrs McEvoy shares the prize with Mr Alf Baker of Bonchurch, near Ventnor, on the Isle of Wight.

Children killed 'to save them'

Julia Phillips, aged 31, of Limsfield, Surrey, strangled her two children because she was a paranoid schizophrenic and believed she was "saving" them from sexual attacks, a Central Criminal Court jury was told yesterday.

She pleaded guilty to the manslaughter of her son and daughter. Her plea of not guilty to murder on the ground of diminished responsibility was accepted and she was remanded for a month for reports.

'Kidneys-for-sale' hearing

Surgeon denies testing donor with £5

By John Young

A transplant surgeon yesterday denied telling a reporter from *The Times* that he had waved a £5 note in front of a Turkish donor to establish whether he was being paid for his kidney.

Mr Michael Bewick told the professional conduct committee of the General Medical Council that Mr David Sapsted had correctly reported the generality of a telephone conversation last January. However, the practicalities were rubbish, he said. "I never carry money."

Mr Bewick was giving evidence in the sixth week of a hearing into charges that he and Mr Michael Joyce, a urologist, and Dr Raymond Crockett, a Harley Street specialist, were guilty of serious professional misconduct in connection with the alleged sale of kidneys.

Mr Roger Henderson, QC, for the GMC, asked Mr

Bewick if he had never thought it appropriate to do a little charade with money to see if donors were being paid.

Mr Bewick replied that he never carried money because he was constantly changing clothes and moving in and out of operating theatres.

Had he told Mr Sapsted that



Mr Bewick: "Dr Crockett did not seem to be telling truth."

Dr Crockett never appeared to be telling the truth, Mr Henderson asked. Yes, that was the description he had had of Dr Crockett for a long time, Mr Bewick answered.

He said one frequently got the impression he was telling only half the truth in some circumstances. In the end one found he had told all the facts he had known but it took a long time to find that out.

"Did you say 'I think you would be naive if not stupid to think that any living donor never gets anything but a thank you'?" Mr Henderson asked. "Yes."

Mr Bewick said it was impossible to be 100 per cent certain in transplant operations that no money was changing hands.

In the case of four Turkish donors, said to have been paid, it was known there was no close relationship between them and the recipients. How-

ever, they had volunteered to give their kidneys. There was no evidence of bribery.

Mr Henderson asked whether it was not clear that in all four cases the donor and recipient came from different countries and different socioeconomic backgrounds. Mr Bewick said it was very difficult in the case of a gravely ill patient to determine his socioeconomic group.

Had he closed his eyes to the differences in their nationality? Mr Bewick replied that in the case of Mr Farid Usta and Mr B, one a Muslim and the other a Jew, it was "odd", but he had assumed there must be some relationship.

Supposing he had asked Mr Usta how long he had known Mr B and the reply had been "Who?" he would have stopped the operation?

"Yes," Mr Bewick replied. The hearing continues today.

Mother who smacked son loses 'at risk' appeal

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

A mother whose children were placed on a child abuse register after she smacked her unruly son aged six with a wooden spoon lost a High Court battle yesterday to clear her name.

East Sussex County Council's decision to put the boy and his sister aged five on their child abuse register was upheld by Sir Stephen Brown, President of the High Court Family Division.

A legal specialist said later the decision was a warning to all parents who physically punish their children.

Sir Stephen said social workers were called in after a school teacher noticed bruising on the boy's thigh. He

told them his mother had smacked him for "being too lippy".

The mother told social workers and the police that she had smacked her son three times with the spoon after he spat in her face. She told them: "Every mother corrects her child."

The mother argued at the High Court that the decision to put her son and daughter on the child abuse register after the incident was unreasonable and ought to be quashed.

However, the judge ruled that the council had not acted unreasonably.

"It may seem to some that this was simply an exasperated parent spanking a child," Sir Stephen said. "But what of course came to the attention of the authority were the marks of injury which were observed by the head

mistress of the school. Fortunately, they were not very serious. Nobody is suggesting they were."

"But what they did suggest was that there was the basis of concern as to the treatment this boy might receive, even though he well merited some form of reprimand. The headmistress herself speaks of his bad behaviour."

"I am quite sure to say that the authority here came to a decision that was wholly unreasonable. They were exercising their statutory duty to care for the welfare of children in their area," Sir Stephen said.

A legal specialist said: "It seems to indicate that even parents with a legitimate reason for physically punishing their children could finish up with them being put on child abuse registers, with all the implications and involvement of welfare services that that entails."

Mr Tom Coningsby, QC, chairman of the Family Law Bar Association, defended the court's ruling last night.

"Putting a child on a register who is considered to be at risk is what it says, it is not removal of a child. The children would then be monitored regularly and if after six months there was no further incident, their names would be taken off."

Mr Coningsby said that to many people the use of any kind of object to hit a child "is just the wrong side of the line". He said: "It can be argued that to do this is a cause for concern, particularly if marks are still visible when the child goes to school."

THE GUINNESS CASE

Napley 'concocted lies and leaked them to the press'

By Paul Wilkinson and Angela Mackay

Sir David Napley, the former president of the Law Society, was accused of telling "blatant lies" by the chief prosecution witness in the Guinness trial yesterday.

Mr Olivier Roux, Guinness's former finance director, told Southwark Crown Court that Sir David had lied about two conversations and also "concocted" some "pure invention" which was then leaked to *The Sunday Times*.

Sir David became involved in what is now known as the Guinness affair in December 1986 after the Department of Trade and Industry started investigating Guinness's takeover of Distillers.

According to Mr Roux, the Guinness chairman, Ernest Saunders, wanted Sir David's firm, Kingsley Napley, to replace Freshfields as Guinness's solicitors. Mr Roux disagreed and, after learning of the move on December 19, resigned as finance director.

Mr Richard Ferguson, QC for Mr Saunders, put to Mr Roux that the reason he attacked Sir David was because their versions of events conflicted.

Mr Roux: "He (Sir David) leaked false statements, concocted statements. It was wholly inappropriate and he leaked them to the press."

Mr Roux said Sir David

THE CHARGES

Ernest Saunders, aged 54, former chairman and chief executive of Guinness, of Putney, south-west London: two charges of conspiring to contravene the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act; two of authorizing or permitting Guinness to contravene the Companies Act; eight of false accounting; two of theft; one of destroying company documents.

Gerald Ronson, aged 50, head of the Heron International group, of Hampstead, north-west London: one charge of conspiring to contravene the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act; one of aiding

Mr Saunders to permit Guinness to contravene the Companies Act; two of false accounting; one of theft.

Anthony Parnes, aged 44, a stockbroker, of London: five charges of false accounting; two of theft.

Sir Jack Lyons, aged 74, a financier, of Kensington, west London: one charge of conspiring to contravene the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act; one of conspiracy to contravene the Companies Act; one of aiding Mr Saunders to permit Guinness to contravene the Companies Act; four of false accounting; one of theft.

stockbroker Mr Anthony Parnes, and Sir Jack Lyons the financier. All deny 24 counts of theft, false accounting and breaches of the Companies Act arising out of an alleged illegal share support scheme during the takeover.

Earlier in his evidence, Mr Roux said the merchant bank Ansbacher had also helped Guinness in its share support operation. In return for not selling a large quantity of shares it held, Guinness deposited £7.6 million at the bank on a no-interest basis.

Mr Roux said that at the December 15 meeting, Sir David had asked him whether he had discussed the Ans-

bacher transactions with Mr Saunders. "I said I did, which caused great anguish for Mr Saunders," Mr Roux said.

Mr Ferguson asked Mr Roux whether in the car after the meeting, Mr Saunders had told him "never again to suggest he knew about matters when he didn't know about them". Mr Roux said Mr Saunders did say never to suggest that he knew about the matter, but not the last part of Mr Ferguson's suggestion.

Earlier, Mr Roux had claimed that the Argyl supermarket chain, which fought with Guinness for control of Distillers in 1986, had mounted its own share support operation to win the bid.

"They were purchasing their own shares; they were running their own share support operation," he said.

"Guinness's support operation was only to counter what Argyl was doing, rather than the opposite."

At the start of the day's cross-examination, Mr Roux denied perjuring himself in court last week.

Mr Roux, who on Friday admitted lying to DTI inspectors, was asked whether he lied to the court at the beginning of the cross-examination when he denied telling any lies.

Mr Roux: "I gave my answer in good conscience. There was a stage when I told lies to the DTI inspectors and



Mr Richard Ferguson (left) and Mr Olivier Roux on their way to court yesterday, where Mr Roux accused the solicitor Sir David Napley (right) of concocting blatant lies about the Guinness affair and leaking them to *The Sunday Times*.

the company lawyer."

Mr Ferguson: "You have perjured yourself."

Mr Roux: "You are making a sweeping overstatement."

Mr Roux said he had not corrected lies in the statement he made to the DTI in January 1987 when he met the inspectors for the second time a month later, because he was unprepared and in no fit state to be questioned.

Mr Roux said the process of a DTI interview was "threatening" and the DTI's concern was "to get the witness in the worst possible light".

Mr Roux was then questioned about a conversation that allegedly took place with Mr Saunders in which they

discussed success fees for Sir Jack Lyons and Mr Parnes.

Mr Ferguson said that Mr Roux had said during the meeting that Mr Parnes had proved invaluable for his technical advice during the bid and had "educated" him about the workings of the City.

Mr Roux denied the conversation had taken place, but agreed that he had spoken about how valuable he had found Mr Parnes's advice.

He also denied that he had said fees could be dealt with out of a £100 million "deal budget".

He denied that he had said payments of the success fees were part of his responsibility, as they would have to be

authorized by Mr Saunders.

"It would be a 180-degree change from the way things worked within Guinness to do that," Mr Roux said.

He was then questioned about a £5.2 million payment to another of the Guinness directors, Mr Thomas Ward, an American lawyer.

Mr Roux denied that Mr Saunders had told him to authorize a payment to Mr Ward's American legal firm, Ward-Lazarus. The money was eventually paid to Marketing and Acquisition Consultants, a company controlled by Mr Ward.

Mr Roux agreed that at the time he had processed the various success fees, he did

not think there was anything improper or legally wrong with their payment.

Mr Ferguson then questioned him about a letter he signed on behalf of Guinness on April 17, 1986 to the City Takeover Panel. It related to the purchase of 10 million shares in Distillers which had produced a complaint from the rival bidders, Argyl.

The letter, drawn up by Freshfields lawyer, denied there was any Guinness involvement in the purchase, but Mr Roux agreed that he had been misled into signing the letter as he subsequently discovered the purchase had been authorized by Mr Ward. The case continues today.

Actor to sell part of his collection

The film star Kirk Douglas, who has built up an important collection of contemporary art, is to sell 19 works.

The paintings, by great names such as Picasso, Braque, Chagall, Dubuffet, Mondrian and Balthus will be brought from the Beverly Hills home of the star of *Champion* (1949) and *Spartacus* (1961), and sold by Christie's in New York on May 16.

The works, in fact, reflect the collecting skills of his wife, Anne, who started the collection before they married.

Highlights include "Horse and Child" by the Russian artist Marc Chagall (estimate \$1.5 million, £940,000); "Chasse Croise" by Jean Dubuffet, an oil painting from a series called "Paris Circus" (£950,000); "The Pigeon" by Balthus (£560,000); and "Basket of Fruit" by Picasso (£375,000).

The group is, according to Mr John Steinert of Christie's,



Kirk Douglas: Collection reflects wife's taste.

SALEROOM

by Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

"an expression of a serious and intensely emotional taste in collecting".

There was anger in the heritage lobby at the stance taken by Lord Hesketth over "The Three Graces" sculpture by Canova during parliamentary question time in the House of Lords.

The Under-Secretary of State for the Environment said that the Minister for the Arts had explored a number of proposals to save the £7.6 million work, which is under an export ban until March 12. However, because the arts lobbying body Save Britain's Heritage had served a writ for a judicial review on the Secretary of State for the Environment's decision not to take listed building enforcement action on the statue, he said he could not comment.

Miss Marianne Watson-Smith, from the group, said: "I don't see why it should be Save's fault." There was no question of dropping the judicial review.

"We are anxious for the Government to restate their position regarding listed buildings control."

The sculpture is subject to a temporary export ban while heritage bodies try to match a price offered by the Getty Museum in California.

Parliament, page 11

Cigarette sales victory

A shop assistant threatened with dismissal for refusing to sell cigarettes has won her fight to save her job (Libby Jukes writes). Mrs Margaret Scott, aged 37, whose grandmother died of lung cancer, was suspended from Woolworths in Ashford, Kent, for refusing to stand in for colleagues at the cigarette counter. However, after an appeal to the district manager, Mr Paul Clayton, Mrs Scott was reinstated and allowed not to sell cigarettes.

Arrest inquiry

An investigation is to be carried out into the arrest of three Welsh actors and the girl friend of one of them by detectives seeking Welsh firebombers. It is believed they may have been victims of a hoax.

Miners strike

Nearly 800 miners went on strike after some of their colleagues were moved to different jobs at Hatfield Main Colliery, near Doncaster, South Yorkshire.

Romania aid

A convoy carrying 50 tons of medical supplies, food and clothing set off from Glasgow for Constanta, Romania.

Short closes on leader

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Four consecutive wins have catapulted Nigel Short into equal second place behind Gary Kasparov, the world champion, in the international chess tournament at Linares, Spain.

The performance is a remarkable feat against some of the world's top players.

Short, Britain's leading grandmaster, beat Boris Galka, the highest rated American grandmaster, in the seventh round. There are four rounds to be played.

With Short playing white, the moves were:

White	Black	White	Black
1 e4	e5	17 dxc3	Ne6
2 Nf3	Nc6	18 e4	exd4
3 Bc4	Nf6	19 exd4	Q5
4 d3	Qc7	20 Re1	Rae8
5 c3	bd7	21 exd5	Rxd5
6 Nbd2	g6	22 Bg2	Qf7
7 Nf1	Bg7	23 Qc2	Bb6
8 Bg5	jd6	24 Qe4	Q5
9 Bxf4	Ne5	25 Qc3	Q5
10 Bxf4	Bxf4	26 Bc5	Nf4
11 Qxc4	Nc4	27 Qc2	Nd3
12 Nc3	Qd7	28 g4	Bg5
13 f3	0-0	29 Qc2	Nf4
14 Kf1	Ne8	30 Qd2	Rf5
15 Qd2	Ng4	31 Ng5	h5
16 h3	Ne3	32 Bxf6	Bf1

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Ministers attempt to head off student loan revolt in Lords

By Sam Kiley, Higher Education Reporter

The Government yesterday tried to head off a rebellion in the Lords over student loans by giving details of how the scheme would be run and criticizing an alternative graduate tax system.

The Education (Student Loans) Bill receives its second reading in the Lords this afternoon and the Government has ordered a three-line whip to stop the revolt, led by Lord Beloff, the Conservative peer.

Earlier this year the Government's plans were thrown into disarray when banks refused to administer "top-up loans", forcing the Department of Education and Science to devise a new scheme.

Peers on all sides of the House have objected to the loans Bill because it is a piece of enabling legislation four clauses long which gives the Secretary of State wide powers to introduce a loans programme of his own choosing.

Earl Russell, the Liberal Democrat peer, a don at King's College London, will table an amendment recording disaffection with the scheme which the whips' office fears will win widespread support since it would not block the Bill altogether.

In a written answer published in the Commons and Lords, Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said that all full-time students in higher education, including most on one-year courses, would be

eligible for the loans. The loans would be repayable when graduates earned 85 per cent of the average national wage (currently £11,500 a year) and graduates would, in most cases, have five years to pay off their debts, which would be free of real interest. Collections would be by direct debit.

In a letter to the independent peer Lord Annan, Mr MacGregor said that a graduate tax system — which had been advocated by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals — would be administratively burdensome and fail to ensure that graduates paid for what they had borrowed.

The Government's argument will be led by Lord Cailness, the Paymaster General, who is expected to take a conciliatory line and hint that concessions would be possible when the Bill goes to the committee stage.

Nevertheless, the three-line whip could mean that 400 Tory peers, including seldom seen backwoodsmen, will appear for the vote on the second reading — unusual in the House of Lords, where second readings are rarely opposed.

Mr MacGregor said that student loans would be £460 inside London for a full year and £340 in the final year. Outside London the respective figures would be £420 and £310 and students living at home would get £330 or £240

in their last year. Grants, claimed by about 40 per cent of students, will be frozen at this year's levels of about £2,200 but all students would be eligible for a loan. To qualify students would need three years' residency in Britain.

Repayments would be cancelled altogether 25 years after the beginning of the loan or on the graduate's 50th birthday.

● An east London Church of England school was yesterday accused in a school inspectors' report of "seriously failing its pupils" (David Tyler writes). Mr MacGregor has called for a second report on Hackney Free and Parochial Church of England Secondary School within the next four weeks.

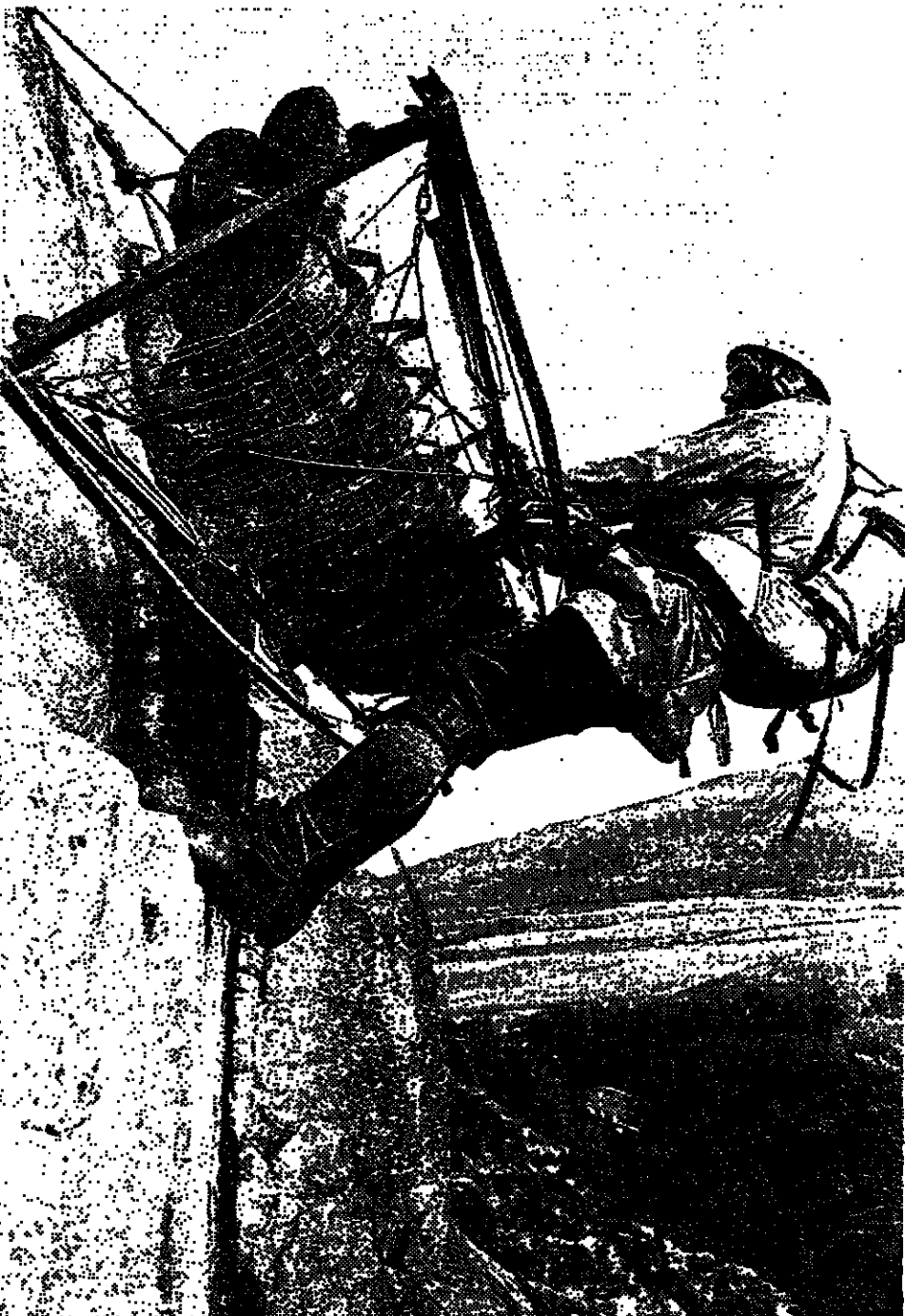
The inspectors say that discipline is poor and many pupils are failing to turn up for badly-taught lessons by temporary teachers in dilapidated buildings.

Public examination results are poor, with pupils failing to remember essential facts and their work going unmarked, the report says.

Mr MacGregor has asked the Inner London Education Authority for a progress report on the steps taken by the school to establish a disciplined working environment; the development of better planned and better co-ordinated teaching; improvements in the use of resources; and work done to repair fire damage to the school buildings.

Slow, steep climb to safety

CRISPIN RODWELL



An RUC sergeant guides an accident "victim" up a rock face to safety high above Ballater, Grampian, during a training exercise by the force's mountain rescue team in the Cairngorms.

Prisoners held 20 hours a day in infested cells

By Quentin Cowdry, Home Affairs Correspondent

Young unconvicted inmates at Rochester Prison in Kent are confined to cockroach-infested cells for over 20 hours a day and denied work and skills training, Judge Tumim, chief inspector of prisons, says in a report today.

The report is being seen by the Home Office and penal reformers as identifying a key problem for the Government, which has pledged itself to improving conditions throughout the prison service.

Judge Tumim says it is wholly unacceptable that remand inmates should be locked up in their cells for so long and suggests that active, purposeful regimes for remand prisoners can help to reduce reoffending.

His report says that at Rochester the 193 remand prisoners, all aged under 21, are generally barred from work and skills training courses, have minimal access to the gymnasium or education classes and are, at best, only allowed to mingle with other inmates under "association time" for four-and-a-half hours a week.

The remand prisoners have to "sleep out", because none of the cells have integral sanitation, and inmates' clothes are changed only once a week.

Standards of cleanliness and hygiene, the judge concludes, are "very poor".

The report says that a few inmates do attend education classes but they then miss out on gymnasium, association and exercise periods.

The "great resentment" inmates felt about the basic

deficiencies in their regime is made worse by some niggling prison rules, the report adds. One bars them from playing football on the exercise ground because it might damage a newly-painted fence.

Judge Tumim accepts that it is difficult to raise standards for remand prisoners because the length of their stay in prison is so uncertain, but he says experience in other jails indicates that such problems can be overcome.

The National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders said the report highlighted the "continuing scandal" of conditions for remand inmates.

"Logically these prisoners should have the best regimes because they are all technically innocent and in some cases actually innocent," the association said.

"But in practice they suffer the worst conditions in the entire system, with the longest time spent in their cells and the smallest opportunities for constructive activities."

The association believes that the condition in which remand prisoners live is one of the main reasons why a disproportionate number commit suicide or mutilate themselves.

Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, has said he wants to exploit the opportunity presented by the recent drop in the prison population to improve standards in jails.

Money is being diverted from the £1 billion prison building programme into jail refurbishment.

Rudolf Hess conspiracy theory

BBC attempt to disprove claim 'was flawed'

By Edward Gorman

The leading exponent of the conspiracy theory about Rudolf Hess has accused the BBC of a "flawed" and partial attempt to destroy his theory and has sent a detailed complaint to Mr Marmaduke Hussey, chairman of the board of governors.

Mr Hugh Thomas, a consultant surgeon and author of *Hess: A Tale of Two Murders*, complained about a television documentary which attempted to put an end to his theory that the man in Spandau was a double.

Hess: an edge of conspiracy, produced by the BBC's Timewatch Unit and broadcast in mid-January, became shrouded in controversy after the appearance of forged letters earlier this month implying that Dr Chris-

topher Andrew, its presenter, was involved in an organized manipulation of German archives about Hess to protect the "official" version.

Dr Andrew, fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, has denied being involved.

In the programme Dr Andrew set out to show that, like many conspiracy theories, the one about Hess — that he died in 1941 and never went to Spandau — was more exciting than common sense, but ultimately unlikely. Conspiracy theories tended to survive because of the "difficulty, not to mention the tedium, of trying to prove an opposite — a negative".

Dr Andrew relied on interviews with a forensic artist, a voice analyst, the assistant manager of an airfield in

Germany from where Hess left in 1941, evidence of members of Hess's family, the opinion of a forensic pathologist, and apparently new medical records found in Munich which appear to show conclusively that the man was Hess.

Mr Thomas yesterday said the key failing was that the BBC failed to get a full translation of the new medical documents; had it done so, it would have found them to demonstrate the opposite to that claimed. He said he was given only 10 minutes to consider the new records before commenting, and his remarks were in any case left out.

Mr Thomas's supporters said the BBC failed to mention that the airfield manager had in the past given

contradictory versions; that, excluding British government experts, all 57 surgeons who examined the prisoner over the years could find no evidence of gunshot wounds that would prove him to be Hess; that an interview with one of them explaining this was omitted, as were photographs taken at the post mortem in 1987 which showed no sign of gunshot wounds.

Mr Roy Davies, the programme's producer, said every point made by Mr Thomas had been dealt with and dismissed by the BBC.

Dr Andrew yesterday refused to comment on the letters. He has said they were crude forgeries based on private correspondence; he has declined to reveal to whom he sent the letters on which they were based.

MPs demand action to stop immigration marriage fraud

By Jamie Dettmer

MPs urged the Government yesterday to plug a legal loophole that is allowing thousands of illegal immigrants to claim the identities of British citizens or secure residence rights in Britain on the basis of sham marriages.

This week in the Commons, MPs will call on ministers to tighten the rules governing applications for copies of British birth certificates.

The Immigration Service has found that numbers of people have been applying for dozens of copies of birth certificates at the Central Register of Births and Deaths at St

Catherine's House in London. The copies are used to give new identities to illegal immigrants or for sham marriages.

During their year-long inquiry, codenamed Operation Goldring, they established that in 1988 alone there were probably 5,000 bogus marriages in Britain involving West Africans. Others involve Indian nationals.

Last night, Sir Dudley Smith, Conservative MP for Warwick and Leamington, who was vice-chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Race Relations and

Immigration in the 1970s, said the Operation Goldring report would "cause great alarm".

"The Government must step in and stop the identities of perfectly innocent British citizens being used for fraudulent immigration purposes."

A Government White Paper, published two weeks ago, has, however, recommended retaining free access to birth certificates.

The Goldring report argues for a tightening of the rules and for more resources to be given to the Immigration Service to combat marriage rackets.

Motor industry shake-up

Rover accepts 37-hour week

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

Rover is to cut the working week for 30,000 manual workers in a move that will pave the way for radical increases in production of the company's most successful car.

Union leaders claimed the reduction from 39 hours a week to 37 as an important victory in the lengthy national campaign for a shorter working week for more than a million workers in the engineering industry.

Rover is the first company in the British motor industry to cut the working week, and may well set the pace for hundreds of component factories and other car producers, who still have working weeks of 39 hours.

At Ford, still suffering acrimonious disputes over the two-year company pay deal, unions were unable to secure a cut in working time because executives claimed it would add too greatly to costs.

However, Rover plans to use the two-hour reduction as a key bargaining tool for widespread changes in work practices that will help to double the production of its new 200 Series hatchback and saloon cars, manufactured at Longbridge, Birmingham. The

plan could also mean another 1,000 jobs at Longbridge.

Unions have so far resisted a plan for 24-hour production at the important K Series engine plant, which makes 1.4 litre engines for the 200 Series cars, and later, the new Metro, which is due to be launched this spring.

The Rover proposals would mean workers completing longer shifts of 11 hours, but doing only 13 a month instead of the present 20.

In addition, they would be guaranteed seven consecutive days off every month and paid a £20-a-week shift premium.

Seen as the most far-reaching working proposals in the UK motor industry, the plan has foundered so far on union demands for total working time to be reduced. That may now be overcome as Rover accedes to the demand to cut two hours from the working week.

Mr Norman Haslam, the company's personnel opera-

tions director, said yesterday that cutting working time would not raise costs but would pave the way for better productivity and raise capacity.

That is vital as Rover faces waiting lists of up to seven months in this country and a year abroad on some models of the 200 Series.

Output is at present about 2,500 to 3,000 cars a week, but production round the clock in the K Series plant plus three shifts on assembly lines could raise that number to 5,000 a week by July.

With the car successfully launched in continental markets, Rover could fall victim to its own success unless it can greatly increase its output.

Mr Kevin Morley, the company's commercial director, said yesterday: "Acceptance of the Rover 200 revised range has been enormous and we are facing lists of as much as seven months for some 216 models and two months for 214 cars. In Belgium, we took a year's orders on the day of launch."

"That means we must try to raise production as quickly as we can while maintaining the quality of the car."

Consultant loses fight for his job

By Craig Seton

A hospital consultant has lost his claim for unfair dismissal eight years after being suspended on full pay.

Dr Royce Darnell, aged 60, was the £20,000-a-year senior consultant microbiologist at Derby Royal Infirmary until being suspended in 1982 over alleged mismanagement and failures of budget control and appointment procedures.

His case was considered twice by the High Court and he received full pay until 1988, when his dismissal by the Trent Regional Health Authority was confirmed by the Secretary of State for Health.

Dr Darnell last month took his case to an industrial tribunal in Nottingham, claiming that he had been the victim of a political campaign. However, in a judgement announced yesterday, the tribunal said that it was satisfied that his dismissal was fair.

Dr Darnell is now considering appealing to the Employment Appeal Tribunal.

Cases of hospital doctors involved in long disciplinary procedures have prompted the Department of Health to draw up strict time limits.

Top practising lawyers hired as dons

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

Magdalene College, Cambridge, is beating the recruitment crisis in university and polytechnic law schools by hiring the services of leading lawyers or judges from the practising profession.

The college's master Mr David Calcutt, QC, is chairing two Government inquiries — on privacy and the Cofin Wallace affair. The college also has several lecturers with a foot in private practice.

In addition, it has just appointed Sir Derek Oulton, QC, until recently permanent secretary of the Lord Chancellor's Department, to its full-time law staff to teach administrative law and contract.

Among the staff he will join are Judge Kolbert, who was a part-time don, part-time practising barrister. Although now on the circuit bench, he remains a fellow and returns once a week to teach criminal practice and criminal evidence.

The Director of Studies, Mr Chris-

topher Greenwood, himself a part-time practising barrister in international and EC law, said: "The gap between academic salaries and income in practice is now enormous."

"First-year articulated clerks earn more than lecturers who have been teaching for several years."

However, the idea was not just to help with recruitment and retention of staff, but to improve the quality of the teaching, Mr Greenwood said.

"I think that the teaching is the better for having a foothold in practice. It gives a more practical outlook: we can help and explain why a case went the way it did, and how the substantive law fits in to it."

Another college lecturer is the leading QC Mr Alan Rawley, who comes up to college to teach criminal law on Friday nights and Saturday mornings after a week spent in court on big criminal trials.

The college recently appointed a young pupil barrister, Mr Simon Picken, to teach company law.

Mr Greenwood said: "With some of

the lecturers, such as myself, our main source of income is from lecturing with additional support from the Bar."

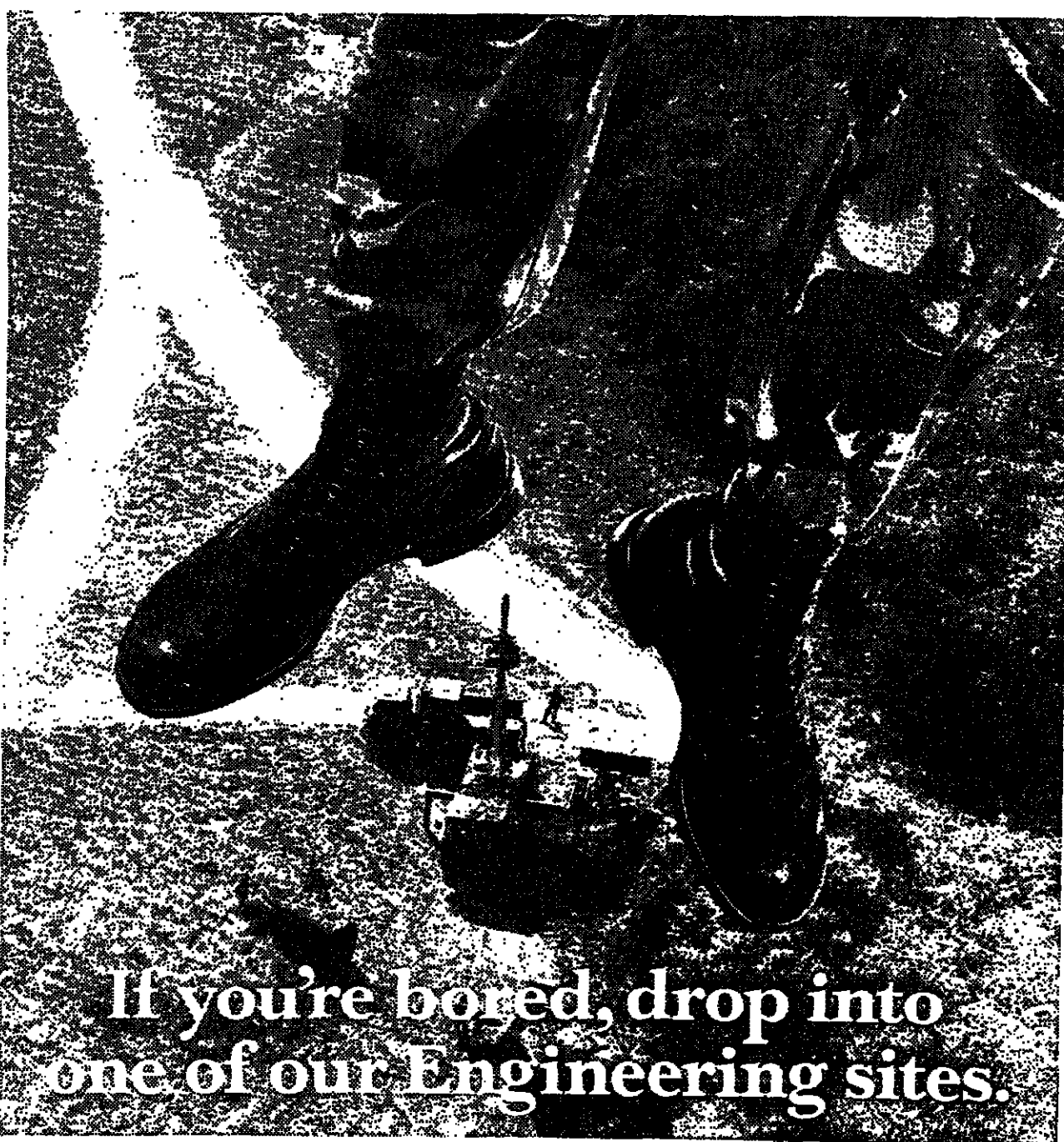
"With others, such as Mr Rawley, it is obviously the other way round."

● Graduates are being sought for 14 research vacancies at the Law Commission, the law reform body. The vacancies, which are filled for up to one year, involve working with the five Law Commissioners on key law reform projects across common law, criminal law, family and property law.

● A cross-section of employers of law firms to the European Commission — will be hosts at about 70 stands at the first national recruitment Law Fair, on March 15 and 16.

More than 3,000 graduates are expected to attend the fair at the Business Design Centre, north London.

It is being organised by the University of London Careers Advisory Service, with *The Times*. Details from: 01 387 8221.



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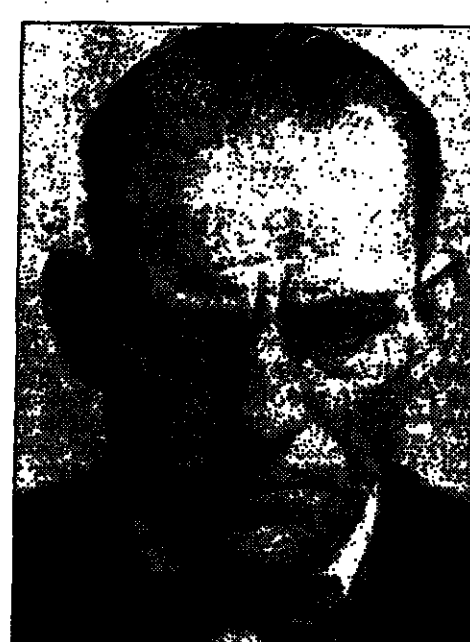
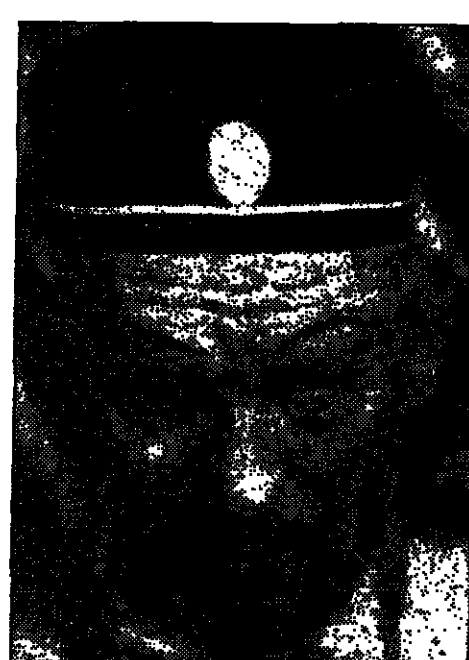
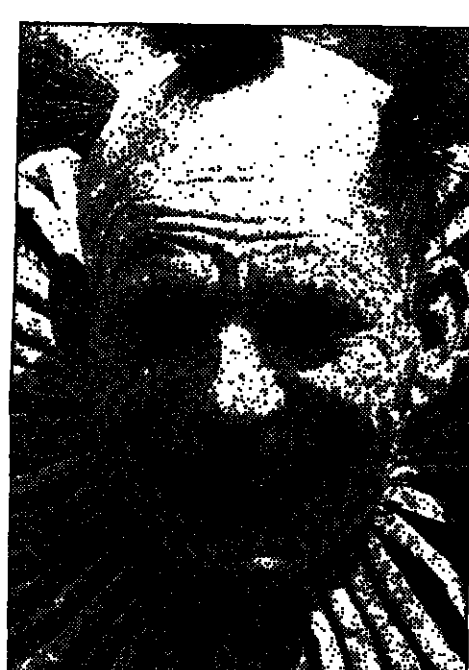
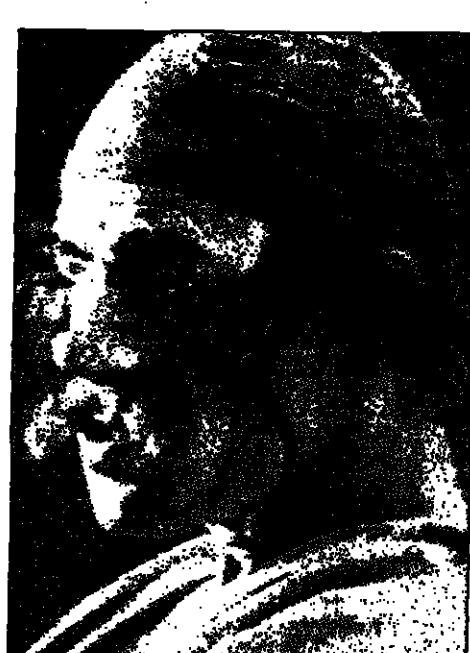
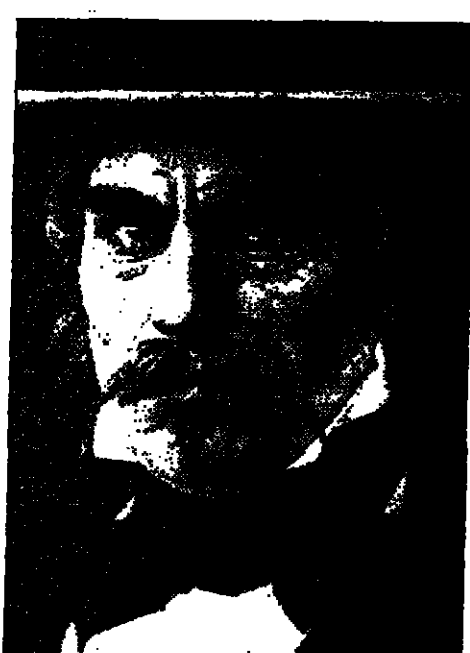
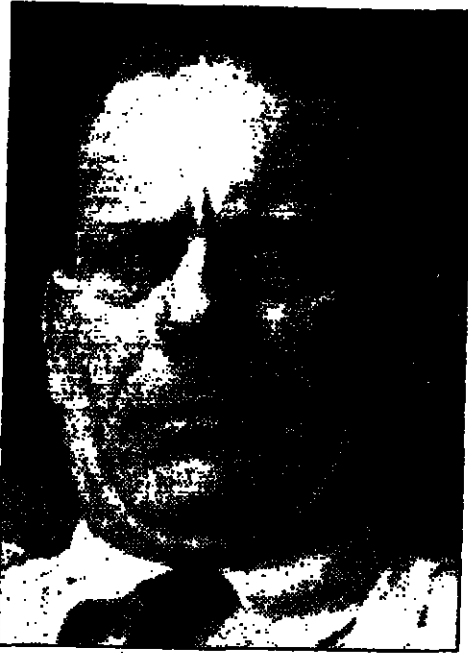
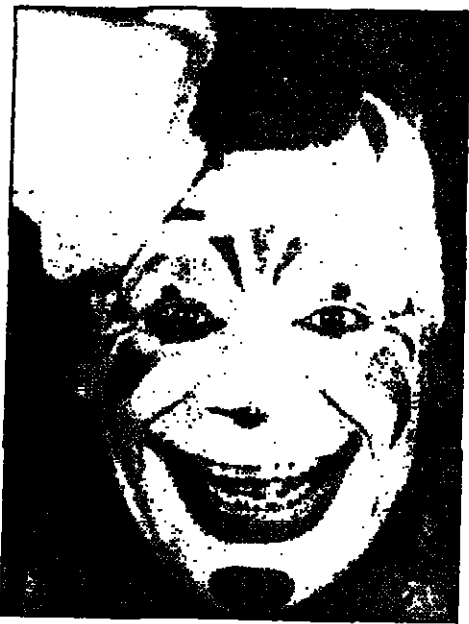
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THE CHANGING FACE OF A SILENT GENIUS.



The joke of the decade. A killer. Ready? Get this: don't step on that spider... it might be Lon Chaney. No? But it's the joke of the decade! Well, it was in the 20s. But then, in the 20s there was probably more chance of Lon Chaney being a spider than a spider being a spider. Born on April Fool's Day, 1883 to deaf and dumb parents, Chaney became one of the biggest movie-stars of the silent era through extraordinary portrayals of all manner of unfortunate, often grotesque individuals: clowns, hunchbacks, phantoms, vampires, evil grandmothers, drunken husbands...

everything from a crooked ventriloquist masquerading as a parrot-selling old lady (*The Unholy Three*) to an armless knife-throwing circus star (*The Unknown*). It seemed there was no character this silent genius couldn't create; no contortion he wasn't capable of; no face he couldn't bring to life. A bit like Epson's latest printers really. Take the GQ-5000 laser printer, for example. Like old Lon, it can do things with characters and faces that you didn't think could be done with characters and faces. Unlike old

Lon, it doesn't have to spend hours on end in front of a mirror, plastered in make-up with funny teeth stuffed up its cake-hole. It does the business almost instantly. The GQ-5000, you see, has 'scaleable fonts'. Sounds painful doesn't it? It's not. It's wonderful. It means you can select any typeface from 80 built-in fonts; choose any size between 3pt and 240pt; print landscape or portrait in bold, medium or italics; underline, extend, flip or condense letters — by simply pressing a button or two. If, however, a cast of thousands is not what you're looking for, simply a quietly brilliant

performance, then the SQ-850 ink-jet is what you're after. The SQ-850 is so quiet you'll hardly notice it's there, let alone that it's whizzing along faster than any comparable ink-jet (600 cps in draft mode and 198 cps in LQ). It also produces high-resolution graphics (at 360 dpi) and does all its own paper-handling stunts, *daarling*. Lon Chaney had to sweat his way through almost 150 films to earn the title *The Man of a Thousand Faces*. All you have to do is write or ring your way through to us here at Epson. So step on it. But don't step on that spider... it might be an Epson.

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CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

Lithuanian poll aftermath

Sajudis urges rapid change of regime to sidestep Gorbachov

The Sajudis nationalist movement, fresh from its landslide victory over the Communists in the Lithuanian election, wants a government formed swiftly in the Baltic republic before President Gorbachov gains executive powers to veto moves to independence, perhaps by calling a national state of emergency.

Dr Vitas Landsbergis, the Sajudis leader, said that a draft law on secession and the strengthening of Mr Gorbachov's position, details of which emerged yesterday, represented "a very threatening situation for Lithuania".

Mr Vitas Sakalauskas, the Communist prime minister of the republic, offered his resignation before last weekend's elections, but was asked to remain as a caretaker.

Sajudis wants his rapid removal, as he is seen as incapable of standing up to the Kremlin. The movement's deputies in Moscow are to boycott the parliamentary debate and the vote on the new secession laws, arguing that since Lithuania was illegally annexed to the Soviet Union, it cannot logically "secede".

Lithuanians are afraid that Mr Gorbachov might use his new presidential powers to declare a state of emergency throughout the Soviet Union.

The initial schedule for the second round of the Lithuanian elections would mean that the changes in Moscow would probably take place

From Anatol Lieven, Vilnius

before the new supreme soviet in Vilnius, the republic's capital, could meet to confirm a new government.

So Sajudis is pressing the authorities to bring the date of the 45 "run-off" elections for so far undecided seats forward from March 10 to next Sunday. With only six elections after that, the supreme soviet would then have a quorum.

A press conference held by the Lithuanian election com-

mission yesterday suggested that this change may well take place. The results published by the commission differed slightly from those put forward by Sajudis on Sunday.

It now appears that the independent Lithuanian Communist Party has 31 seats, 16 of them Sajudis-backed, instead of the 22 given by Sajudis, and the Soviet Communist Party has only four instead of the seven previously suggested.

Mr Algis Cekulis, a Sajudis committee member, said that "the lines between the parties are still very misty" and thought this would charac-

terize the new government. Sajudis, apart from opposing new measures introduced in Moscow, will expect the new government to take rapid steps to reduce Soviet powers in Lithuania.

According to Mr Cekulis, the new administration may go further than just defending Lithuania's conscripts who refuse to serve in the Soviet Army, and actively forbid citizens to obey the draft.

There have been discussions on civil disobedience with the Union of Mothers of Soldiers, which has taken a leading part in protests against the treatment of conscripts.

If the Soviet authorities attempt to use the police to conscript Lithuanians, there may be attempts to block the trains taking them to Russia.

"But I think the police here would obey the government of the republic, and there aren't anything like enough KGB men to perform this task," Mr Cekulis said. The campaign of civil disobedience may also be used as a general weapon if Moscow does not bow to Lithuanian demands.

Establishing full authority within the republic over the Ministry of the Interior - at present still largely controlled from Moscow - and the KGB are likely to be other priorities of a new government. Mr Cekulis said the KGB should be converted quickly from an internal security organization to a counter-intelligence force.

Warsaw (AFP) - Poland's municipal elections, planned for late April, will now not be held before May 20, Mr Jerzy Regalski, the Minister for Self-management, said yesterday. The polls, supposed to be every four years, were last held in 1988, when the communists still ruled, and were boycotted by Solidarity.

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Leaders meet as troops pull out



President Gorbachov sharing a joke with President Havel prior to Kremlin talks which were to include in the Soviet pullout.

The Soviet tank men lead the way home

From Peter Green, Frenstat, Czechoslovakia

"We have lived for the day they leave," cried Mrs Libuse Hubickova, aged 70, standing outside the gates of the Soviet Union's 31st Tank Division Second Regiment, as they began to leave the north Moravian town.

The 31st Tanks, called the Czesochowa division after the Polish town it captured from the Nazis in the Second World War, was due to leave Czechoslovakia under President Gorbachov's 1988 proposal to withdraw unilaterally 50,000 Soviet troops from Europe.

But their departure yesterday has taken on a strong symbolic significance, for as the first 44 T72 tanks and BMP1 and BMP2 armoured personnel carriers were loaded on railway freight cars, 2,000 miles away President Havel of Czechoslovakia met President Gorbachov in Moscow, where the two are expected to sign a final agreement on the withdrawal of the Soviet Union's 75,000 to 80,000 troops in Czechoslovakia.

At 2.42 pm, the train's whistle blew loudly and the workers raised their arms high, fingers in a V for victory sign as the train passed out of sight around a bend. It is expected to cross into the Soviet Union at about noon today at the Czechoslovak town of Cier nad Tisou. Two more trains should leave Frenstat today.

The Russians have been in Czechoslovakia since 1968, when nearly 150,000 men led a Warsaw Pact invasion to suppress the Prague Spring reforms of Mr Alexander Dubcek. Now that communism has left Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Army has begun to follow suit, Czechoslovaks are speaking their minds about the 21 years of occupation.

"When they arrived in '68 the Soviet soldiers were told it was only for five years. For us, it was like living in a prison," said Mrs Hubickova.

Another old lady, standing in front of her house outside the gates of the Soviet base, said the Russians acted like imperialist invaders.

"They taught their children that everything here was theirs. And now that they are leaving, they have pulled out

of our shops as well," she said. As the troops paraded around their base in the morning before leaving, a military band played and Soviet children presented them with red tulips.

Mr Bohumil Soulek, the Frenstat railway station manager, said he was glad to see them go, but he said he harboured no ill feelings towards them. "It was their leaders who were evil, it is not the fault of these boys," he said.

But Mr Soulek said that in the wake of the withdrawal he and other rail workers were planning to give a day's salary each to the local cancer clinic, a move inspired by the waste the Russians have dumped in Frenstat's fields and streams.

Many of the Soviet soldiers are quite young, and some have become attached to Czechoslovakia in their short stay here.

Kaima Baimbetov, a 22-year-old lieutenant from Kazakhstan, said he had made many friends in Czechoslovakia. "Many of them will be sad to see me go, especially the girls," he said smiling. "But they will send letters and keep contact, I am sure."

A few Soviet soldiers talked freely about their stay in Czechoslovakia. "We must leave Czechoslovakia - I would not like foreign troops in my country," said a young officer from the Ukraine. Asked how he felt about Russian troops stationed in the Ukraine, the officer, eyes

rooted to the ground, said quietly: "That is different. The Soviet Union is one whole country."

● MOSCOW: President Havel met President Gorbachov for lengthy talks on future relations as the Soviet troops began their pull-out (AFP reports).

A total of 73,500 Soviet soldiers are to leave between now and 1991, according to General Eduard Vorobiev, Soviet Army commander in Czechoslovakia. The withdrawal is to take place in three stages. A first, involving a third of forces, will take place by end of May and a second, involving nearly all combat troops, by the end of the year. The remainder will leave in 1991.

Magazines in Poland and Hungary are carrying circulation-boosting photographs of naked women, and semi-pornographic magazines are flourishing.

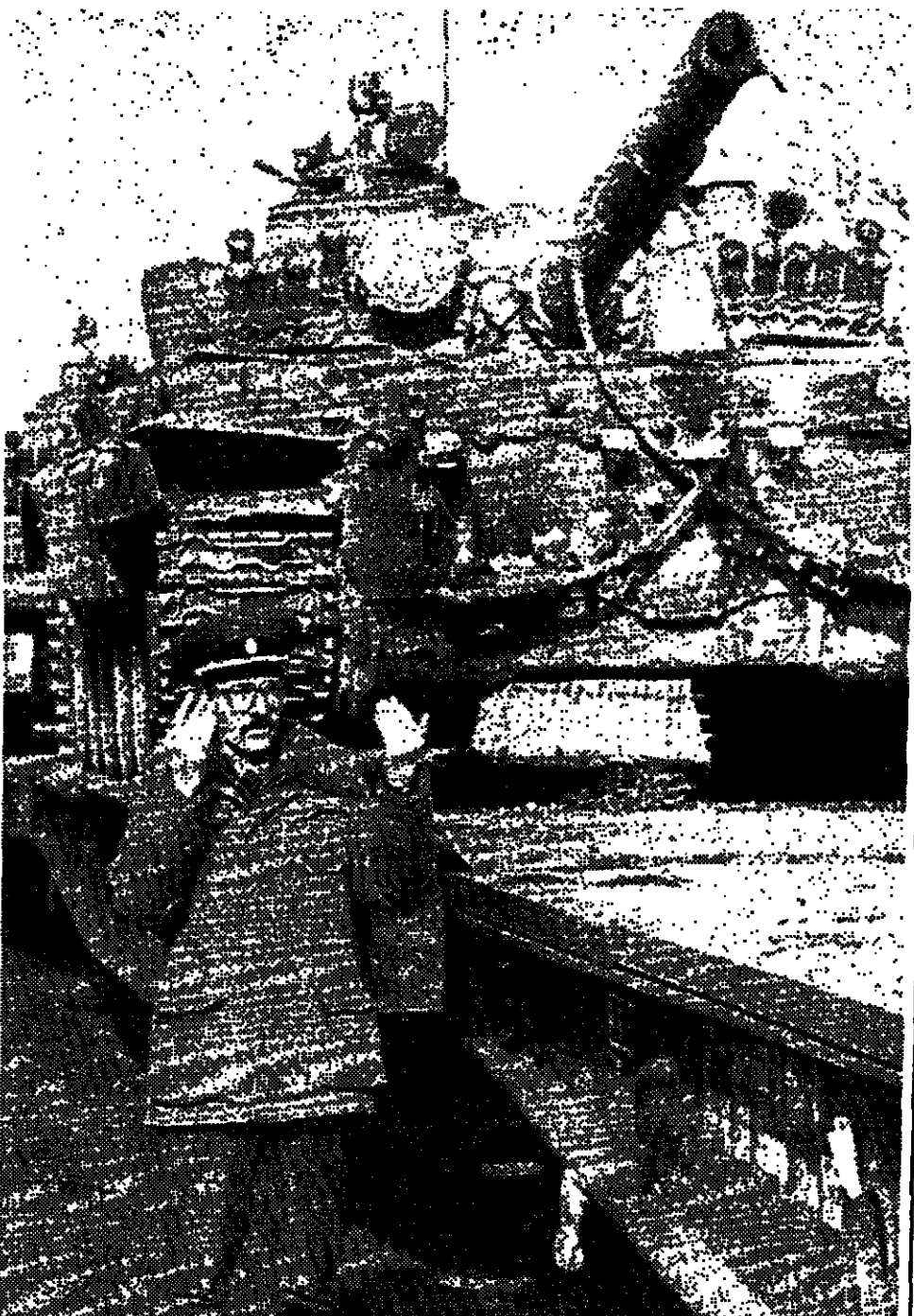
Hungary is regarded as interesting terrain for Western news groups. Indeed there seems to be a circulation battle looming between Mr Robert Maxwell - who has bought a stake in Magyar Hirlap (formerly the official government newspaper) - and Mr Rupert Murdoch, who has bought a 50 per cent share in the glossy weekly Reform and its daily offshoot, Mai Nap.

Newspapers in Eastern Europe have commercial appeal to news groups with satellite television interests, since demand for dishes is strong and is widely predicted to grow even faster.

There seems to be a natural progression in the East European media world. First, there was a weakening and then a paralysis of the communist propaganda machine.

Articles exposing the corruption of the party elites pepper the newspapers, making them exotic and attractive products for the first time in four decades. That is the current state of the press in East Germany and Romania.

Later, when the power of the party is



A Soviet soldier directing tanks onto a home-bound train in Kopřivnice, Czechoslovakia.

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Russian protest drive widens

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

Life in Moscow returned to normal yesterday after Sunday's mass demonstration and the tight security that accompanied it. But as Red Square was reopened and police returned to single patrols, evidence started to reach the capital from outlying areas and cities, usually closed to foreigners, of how widespread the rallies in favour of reform had been.

Mr Boris Yeltsin, the reform radical, addressed a rally of about 3,000 in his home city of Sverdlovsk in the Ural, where he is standing as a candidate for the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, or parliament, next week. Other speakers demanded the resignation of national and local party leaders.

Similar demands were made by tens of thousands of people in the southern city of Saratov, where there were also protests against the number of candidates standing unopposed in the Russian Federation elections; in the city of Ufa, where the First Secretary resigned three weeks ago in response to popular protests; and in Barnaul in the south Siberian region of the Altai, where the First Secretary left office 10 days ago at the first sign of popular opposition.

Several thousand people gathered in the Siberian city of Omsk, where independent

speakers shared the platform with members of the local Communist Party authorities.

Also in Siberia, several hundred people were reported to have turned out in Yakutsk despite the extreme cold. According to Interfax, the semi-official news agency, the meeting was complicated by the failure of the city council to provide a loudspeaker system - even though it had sanctioned the rally.

In the cities of Gorky to the east of Moscow, Yaroslavl to the north, and Voronezh to the south, rallies of several thousand people demanded the retirement of local party, and government leaders. In Gorky, according to Interfax, the council brought in workers by bus to shout "no to extremism" and "down with attacks on the party".

Voronezh demonstrators also protested against economic mismanagement and the number of local election candidates standing unopposed. And the Yaroslavl protesters included in their demands a call for the bodies of former party leaders to be removed from the Kremlin wall and the Novodevichy monastery cemetery and reburied elsewhere.

In the Ukrainian city of Donetsk, which has been the centre of miners' strikes in recent months, a mass meeting called for the resignation of local party leaders and the transfer of power to local government.

Reformist win

Moscow - Soviet Communist reformers are believed to have won their battle to have delegates to this summer's party congress elected directly and by secret ballot (Mary Dejevsky writes). The selection of delegates is crucial in determining the political complexion of the congress. Traditionally, they have been elected indirectly, with winners from one round becoming the voters in the next round, until the final choice is made. Reformists believe this system maintains the status quo and have campaigned for it to be replaced.

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West Germans daunted by cost of reunification

From Ian Murray, Bonn

West Germany is counting the cost of reunification and there are growing signs that it does not like what it sees.

At the same time, resentment is increasing against the refugees who still pour in from the East even though free elections there are only three weeks away.

The wealthy, Christian Democratic state of Baden-Württemberg has now warned that it will cost the existing 11 West German Länder (states) between DM10 billion and DM20 billion (£3.5-£3.8 billion) a year to subsidize the five East German Länder.

Even the Social Democratic-controlled areas, such as Bremen and Saarland, will have to pay, according to the Baden-Württemberg Finance Ministry, which has been conducting a survey of the likely costs.

The risk that other European Community states will have to share the financial burden of renovating East Germany is one of the arguments put forward by Mrs Thatcher for rejecting automatic membership in the event of reunification.

But according to Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, she is wrong in asserting that a treaty change would be necessary before the eastern part of Germany could become part of the EC even after reunification.

In a Sunday Times interview last weekend, she also said that automatic membership would mean allowing in a country which, since the 1930s, had been either com-

munist or Nazi. Herr Genscher said that this idea was a betrayal of the dignity of the German people, who had found the way to democracy through a peaceful, freedom-seeking revolution.

M Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, has pointed out that the Treaty of Rome was originally drawn up, on West German insistence, with eventual German unity in mind - including a clause to enable membership of the entire country possible. While the argument continues over how

much unification will cost and who will pay for it, East Germans are continuing to opt, in increasing numbers, to live in the West.

A weekend poll showed that 100,000 East Germans have arrived in West Germany this year, with the daily average rising. Bonn's welcome for them is wearing thin.

The decision of so many to vote with their feet, instead of waiting to take part in the elections, underlines how little faith people have in a speedy improvement in living standards. Their arrival is destroying the initial goodwill and willingness to help which fol-

lowed the opening of the Berlin Wall last November.

According to a poll in Der Spiegel published yesterday, only 22 per cent believe that all East Germans should be allowed in to claim citizenship automatically, compared with 60 per cent last autumn. A further 71 per cent think that benefits for the new arrivals are "too high" - a 15 per cent increase over the past month.

The change in attitude stems in part from fears that the refugees will add to unemployment and homelessness. Also, the new arrivals are economic, not political, refugees.

Those who came last autumn took risks to leave a country under an oppressive regime where they had no hope of freedom; those who arrive now are deserting their country just as it achieves democracy, choosing to work for personal wealth rather than to help rebuild a prosperous united Germany.

The average East German worker, according to the Government's statistical office, has a monthly income of only 850 Ostmarks. It is impossible to convert the currency into anything meaningful. The current official rate is one Deutschmark (30p) for three Ostmarks. But the black market rate is anything up to one Deutschmark for 10.

East Germans are increasingly certain that currency union will devalue their formidable savings through a conversion rate that makes them valueless or with roaring inflation that quickly consumes all their savings.

to cut printing costs, save on foreign correspondents and streamline management. Recently, they have been talking to a West German news group, the obvious advantage of a joint venture being fresh capital for equipment and a foothold in the world paper market.

West German companies are also moving into East Germany. As almost everybody in East Germany can receive West German television, there is a ready-made advertising market. Some 9.7 million newspapers are sold a day in East Germany.

Stern is planning an East German edition. West Berlin local papers are producing advertising supplements that will also cover East Berlin. A young West German entrepreneur is about to produce a Leipzig paper, Wir in Leipzig, with a print run of 60,000.

Printing in the West and distributing in the East is a real possibility for West German news enterprises. Bild Zeitung, the mass circulation West German daily, has been studying the possibility of a regional edition for East Germans.

Apart from East Germany, Western news groups are understandably cautious about buying into the post-communist press market. Even Poland, with the most avowedly free-market Government, is a little ambiguous about the repatriation of profits.

Modernizing the East European newspaper industry will need large invest-

ments. A reconnaissance trip by executives of News International, which owns The Times, to the printing works of Zycie Warszawy revealed tired, prematurely aged machines that would have to be replaced.

There are a number of East-West talks going on. Mr Marcin Krol, the editor of the intellectual monthly Res Publica - a kind of Encounter - wants to produce a serious daily that will give him faster returns. His first contacts have been with The Independent and El Pais of Madrid.

Andrzej Wroblewski, the new editor of Gazeta Bankowa - which he would like

to make into an East European Financial Times - has been negotiating with the French magazine, M. Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber. But his most inspired move is to print a Russian version of his newspaper and use the rouble profit to buy paper from the Soviet Union.

Other newspapers, such as Polityka, the respected and widely read Polish

Eastern bloc's free press wakes to cold dawn of financial reality

As pioneers of Eastern Europe's fledgling free press confer with Western newspaper representatives at an unprecedented Unesco meeting opening in Paris today, Roger Boyes in Warsaw reviews changes afoot in the Eastern media.

"More people catch flu in spring than in the deepest winter," said the editor of one of Poland's main dailies, trying on a metaphor for size. He was not, of course, parading medical statistics; simply, he wanted to explain that the much warmer political climate in Eastern Europe is claiming serious casualties, especially in the media.

Two rival Polish journalists' unions - one aligned to the communists, the other illegal until recently - are uniting to look after the several hundred reporters who have been thrown out of work this year.

Newspapers are folding almost daily, others are cutting back or have launched themselves on last desperate attempts to boost circulation.

The break-up of the communist press monopolies has two edges. The attractive side is that unreadable party organs are being forced to compete for readers since they cannot rely on subsidies.

News Deutschland, the East German party daily, has changed its typeface, is planning regional supplements, is playing up television coverage and introducing a crossword.

The Polish party paper, now called

only Tribune (Trybuna) and not Tribune of the People, has increased its sports coverage and abandoned its aggressive line. Scintila is now called Free Romania and is a tabloid with anti-Ceausescu cartoons and anecdotes.

CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

Ceausescu's pollution nightmare lingers on

From Richard Beckett, Copșa Mica, Romania

The northern Transylvanian highway turns black five miles before you reach Copșa Mica. Fields, trees, houses, even children, all look as if they have been smothered in soot every day for the past 20 years. An area of 10 square miles is pitch-black, blighted beyond the worst nightmares of West European Greens.

In Nicolae Ceausescu's Romania, it needed only one decision to seal the fate of an entire 7th-century settlement. Some would argue that those villages he bulldozed got off lightly compared with Copșa Mica.

Twenty years ago, as Romania's ill-advised industrialization process relentlessly ground into action, it was

Warsaw (Reuters) — Mr Moshe Arens, the Israeli Foreign Minister, arrived in Poland yesterday to renew diplomatic ties severed in 1967 and immediately went to visit shrines to Jewish victims of the Holocaust. Poland was among the Soviet bloc states that severed ties with Israel during the Six Day War.

decided to construct the country's biggest coal-refining plant at Copșa Mica.

The locals — mainly Germans from the 250,000-strong Saxon community — were powerless to resist. Their two-storey houses, painstakingly painted bright violet and green, turned a shade of black that defied even the Teutonic instinct for sparseness.

The authorities rejected filters as a luxury. "No money for filters here," the Romanian managers told the inhabitants five years ago. But every year those living around Copșa Mica protested, sometimes even compelling petitions and risking imprisonment.

Even the large state fruit farm a few miles away was powerless to demand filters. It

discovered last year that 90 per cent of its harvest contained dangerous quantities of lead.

But a protest brought no response from the factory managers. The fruit is still sold today but no one, even in starving Romania, touches apples from this part of Transylvania.

Today, two months after the revolution, Copșa Mica is still the most polluted town in Eastern Europe. The authorities in Bucharest are so busy arguing and bribing their supporters to demonstrate that they lack time to pay any attention to the town.

"If the Army had taken over instead of the National Salvation Front, things would be different. More would be done," a villager said, adding: "Now people are interested only in power; they have no time for solving the disasters left to us by Ceausescu."

Other villagers in the area are angrier. One said: "In Bucharest they only talk and argue. You will see, they will not fit any filters here for another 10 years."

In the local hospital, a doctor refused to give her name because "the Securitate are still here". She said that in the past two years the rate of infant mortality in the region has risen by 200 per cent: more than 50 babies a year have died.

GENEVA: Respect of human rights has considerably improved in Romania since December's revolution, but some people still live in fear of their lives, according to a United Nations report issued here yesterday (AFP reports).

Mr Joseph Voyame, author of the report to the UN Commission on Human Rights, said that despite the progress since the fall of the Ceausescu regime, there is an atmosphere of suspicion and fear which will be hard to eradicate.

Secret Securitate listening posts destroyed



Major-General Nicolae Cerbu, left, of the Romanian Army, showing journalists two of the electronic devices formerly used by Securitate switchboards to tap telephone conversations. The Army has begun to dismantle the telephone-tapping centres and says this demonstrates that widespread eavesdropping will not happen again (AP reports). "Observe, please, that all the power boxes have been removed," General Cerbu said.

Serbs are accused of killing exile

From Michael Binyon, Brussels

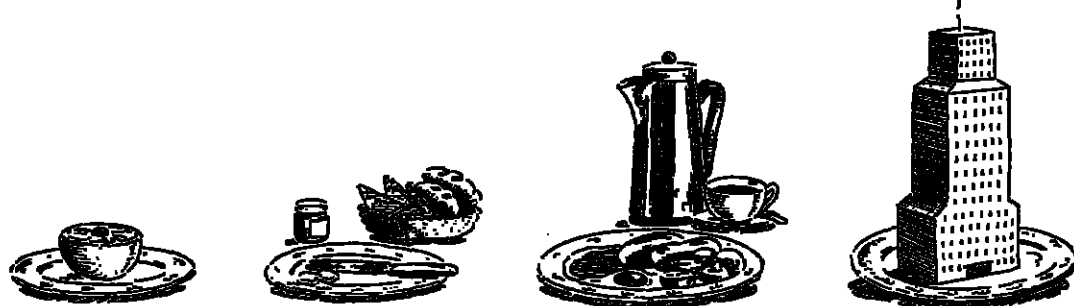
Belgian anti-terrorist police were yesterday treating as a political assassination the murder on Sunday evening of a leading Albanian exile from the troubled Yugoslav province of Kosovo.

Enver Hadri was shot twice in the head with a silenced pistol as he was waiting in his car at traffic lights near his home in a Brussels suburb. The shots came from another car, with Belgian number plates, which sped away. Mr Hadri died in hospital.

He was a leading activist in the movement for Albanian independence in Kosovo, where at least 25 people have died in a month of rioting against Serbian control.

He had lived in Brussels with his family for the past 14 years on a street named, ironically, Albania. About 15,000 Albanians from Yugoslavia live in Belgium, the largest community in Europe. Their leaders yesterday accused the Serbian secret service of masterminding the assassination. Mr Hadri had often received threats by telephone and anonymous letter.

The businessman who eats well stays hungrier.



"Right Fortescue," said the Chairman "We're going for the American market. The Board wants it. The shareholders want it. I want it. We're hungry for a big one here, Fortescue."

"You're hungry" thought Fortescue, "I'm starving. Three hours on the motorway, coming to head office. No food, contraflows as far as the eye can see. The only thing I've had in my stomach is my heart."

"I want you to head it up Fortescue" continued the Chairman. "Study the market, pick the people. Really get your teeth into it."

"Teeth." The word gnawed into the empty pit of Fortescue's stomach.

"If I'd come on InterCity, I could have got my teeth into a full English breakfast" he mused. "Country-side racing past the window, fried egg, succulent sausages, crispy bacon. All the trimmings."

"The American market is huge Fortescue, it's ripe. And you are going to devour it for us."

Fortescue's mind made a futile attempt to grapple with the sales potential in Minnesota. But his stomach had all-devouring thoughts of its own.

A steward bearing slices of hot toast and a cup of steaming black coffee swam briefly into vision.

"Chew it over Fortescue."

The Chairman's culinary metaphors seemed to Fortescue to have a sadistic streak.

His distracted expression caught the Chairman's steely eye.

"We could always give it to Tomkins" the Chairman intoned silkily. "Maybe you've got too much on your plate, Fortescue."

"If only I had" thought Fortescue. "If only I had."

INTERCITY

WORLD ROUNDUP

Swapo martyr 'was on Pretoria payroll'

Johannesburg — Mr Anton Lubowski, a senior Swapo figure and leading Namibian civil rights lawyer who was assassinated last year in Windhoek, was a paid agent for South African military intelligence, General Magnus Malan, the South African Defence Minister, said yesterday (Nicholas Beaton writes).

In a startling revelation during a parliamentary debate over allegations that the South African military ran a hit squad responsible for Mr Lubowski's murder, General Malan said: "I reveal today here that Mr Lubowski was a paid agent of military intelligence. I am assured that he did good work for the SADF (South African Defence Force). The head of staff, information, General Witkop Badenhorst, would thus in no way have approved action against Lubowski." The announcement is bound to shock Mr Sam Nujoma, Swapo's leader, who was close to Mr Lubowski.

Hostage sister's hope

Nicosia — The Lebanese hostage crisis in Lebanon could be over in months, according to the sister of the longest-held victim, who arrives in London today on the last stage of a four-week world tour to investigate and publicize the issue (Mike Theodorou writes). Mrs Peggy Say said: "For the first time ever, there's a concerted effort to help end the crisis." Her brother, Terry Anderson, an American news agency journalist, was kidnapped in Beirut on March 16, 1985. "When we mark the fifth anniversary of his captivity next month, I am certain we will never mark another," she said. Syria, which wields great influence in Lebanon and is on good terms with Iran, was "genuinely and totally committed" to seeking an end to the hostage crisis.

Arrests after shelling

Khartoum (AFP) — Leading figures in south Sudan's main town of Juba have been arrested following a spate of shelling there by the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army, provincial military security chief Ismail el Bayeli said in a report Monday in the government paper Al Sudan Al Hadith. Colonel Bayeli declined to identify them or to say how many were held. After questioning of the detainees, unspecified measures were taken against other people, he said. Juba has been under siege by the rebels for months, and its 300,000 population — 200,000 of them refugees from the civil war — face starvation. The latest rebel artillery attacks have forced international relief workers to quit the city.

CIA secrecy backed

Washington (Reuters) — The US Supreme Court yesterday allowed the Central Intelligence Agency to keep secret all documents on the bombing and sinking in 1985 of the Greenpeace vessel, Rainbow Warrior, in the harbour at Auckland, New Zealand, by French intelligence agents. The vessel, owned by the environmental group, had been preparing to monitor and protest against a scheduled French nuclear weapons test. Mr John Knight, a lawyer from Houston, sought — under the Freedom of Information Act, which mandates openness of government records — access to all CIA documents that dealt with the incident. The agency had refused to disclose any documents, warning that disclosure might reveal intelligence "sources and methods".

Forbes resting place

Sydney (Reuters) — The ashes of millionaire US publisher Malcolm Forbes will probably be taken to a spot on his private island in Fiji which commands a panoramic view of the Pacific Ocean, a former employee said yesterday. Mr Noel Douglas said he often accompanied Forbes, who died in New York on Saturday, on evening walks along the main beach on the island of Laucala and back to the family homestead. "He used to point to this spot near the house because it commanded a beautiful view of the sea and say: 'This is where I would like to be buried,'" Mr Douglas said.

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PARLIAMENT

'Baker the bully' is accused over council budgets

The battle over the community charge continued at Commons yesterday, with Dr John Cunningham, shadow leader of the House, saying that fixing of local council budgets were too important to be subjected to the arm-twisting and bullying of Mr Kenneth Baker, chairman of the Conservative Party.

Mr Baker retorted that, while Conservative councils looked for value for money and reduced community charges, Labour councils were seeking ways to increase expenditure. He was answering as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Mr Michael Jack (Fylde, C) opened the exchanges by telling him that "Duchy residents were suffering from the worst case of pillage since the Vikings."

They were facing an unnecessarily high community charge because of overspending by Lancashire County Council. They would have been helped if the council had accepted the suggestion of its Conservative group of a budget £60 million less than was proposed by Labour.

Mr Baker said that when he was in Lancashire on Friday he had met many people who were angry with the council because its spending had gone up by 17.5 per cent - a huge £123 million. The raising system had continued, the rates would have gone up by 32 per cent this year.

Labour MPs: Not true. Conservative MPs: Disgraceful.

Mr Baker congratulated the Conservative group for putting forward proposals setting out in detail how they would reduce the community charge in a full year by £60 a person (Labour laughter).

Dr Cunningham said that the fixing of budgets for education, the care of elderly people, the provision of social services and housing needs were far too important to be affected by the arm-twisting, bullying and intimidation of the chairman of the Conservative Party.

"Whatever has happened to the idea of poll tax providing more accountability for local government? That seems to have gone out of the window, with ministers and the chairman of the Tory Party ringing up the leaders of local authorities to threaten them."

"Has he seen the comment by CIPFA (the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) on the fictitious figures used by the Prime Minister last week in an effort to manipulate people's opinion and, since he is talking about the effect of high poll-tax figures, why does he not deal with the situation in his own area of Surrey? 'Why does he not compare Lancashire with Surrey. Working where the change is 36 per cent above the government figure; Farnham, 49 per cent; Eastleigh, Hampshire, 48 per cent and Dover, Kent, 48 per cent. And what is he telling his Tory constituents in Mole Valley?'"

Mr Baker said that Conservative authorities looked for value for money and tried to find ways to reduce the charge, while Labour authorities were looking for ways to increase expenditure. He was surprised at the brass neck of Dr Cunningham, who was, as he understood it, sole author of Labour's roof tax and local income tax (prolonged Labour protest).

"My constituents want to know what they would pay under the Cunningham roof and income tax, which he announced last year with a great flourish of trumpets. But the Shadow Cabinet panicked and he was told not to say any more about it."

"The Labour Party has to come clean on the alternative to community charge."

"It is dishonest for them to campaign on an alternative when the elections do not know how they will be affected."

"If the electorate does not know how it will be affected, the Labour Party is cynical, dishonest and hypocritical."

Letters, page 15



Mrs Joan Ruddock, MP, with fellow anti-pollution campaigners who are protesting against the proposed south circular road improvements, taking their petition to Parliament yesterday. They fear that the road will hugely increase traffic and blight housing in parts of south London.

Rothschild offer 'magnificent'

Peers' plea for 'Three Graces'

Peers from all sides of the House of Lords pressed the Government to act immediately to delay the export of the Duke of Bedford's 'Three Graces' sculpture, so that the offer from Mr Jacob Rothschild, which would keep it in Britain, could be considered.

The order banning the export of the sculpture runs out on March 12. At the weekend, Mr Rothschild proposed a £7.6 million package to save it from export to the Getty Museum in California.

Lord Hesketh, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, held out the possibility that the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry might review the temporary order banning the export of the sculpture.

The matter was raised by Lord St John of Fawley (C), a former arts minister, who said that "The Three Graces" represented an important work of Elizabethan sculpture. It was commissioned for Britain and should be retained here.

The situation had been transformed for the better by Mr Rothschild's generous and ingenious offer. What was the Government's policy towards it? There should be a positive response. The time had come for a review of the rules governing the export of works of art.

Lord Hesketh said that Lord St John's views on arts and taste were always taken

seriously by the Government. The sculpture had been commissioned for the Duke of Bedford of the day, not the nation.

Discussions were going on at the moment, including one concerning Mr Rothschild's offer, and therefore it would not be right to comment further.

Lord Strabolgi (Lab) said that as the export ban was due to expire in a fortnight the Government should consider extending it in view of the generous offer of Mr Rothschild. It was the least the Government could do.

Lady Birk, chief Opposition spokesman in the Lords on the arts and heritage, said that the Rothschild offer was magnificent. The Government should accept it unless it was prepared to put up the money.

Pre-eminent works of art were becoming increasingly costly, and were beyond the resources of national galleries and museums. Unless the Government produced the funds to buy important works of art - because there would not always be a Mr Rothschild - the export control system would be shown up as a time-wasting farce.

Lord Hesketh: This country is a treasure house of antiquity and beauty which I believe more than anything else above the success of her art regime on works of art has worked over the years. He said that

other countries might have tougher regulations but the result had been that they had been cleaned out of their art.

Lord Hesketh of Llangynha (Lib Dem) asked who was this great patron of the arts domiciled in the Cayman Islands?

Lord Hesketh said that works of art had often been bought anonymously. The Government believed the owners were reputable.

Lord St John of Fawley said that there were four government ministries involved in the matter. Because the ban expired in two weeks the Government should extend it otherwise, between all these ministries, it would be bungled.

Lord Hesketh said that every effort would be made to ensure that it was not bungled.

Earlier, Lord Hesketh said that the Minister for the Arts (Mr Richard Loe) had explored with interested parties a number of proposals and their funding implications.

However, Save Britain's Heritage had now served a writ for a judicial review of the Secretary of State for the Environment's decision not to take listed-building enforcement action, which would have the effect of having the sculpture returned to Woburn Abbey. "It would not be appropriate in the circumstances for me to comment further."

Injuries board attacked

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Board had replaced the Passport Office as the most incompetent, idle and irritating organ of government, Lord Boyd-Carpenter (C) said at question time in the Lords.

There were more than 95,000 cases outstanding, which was a severe hardship for people who had already suffered.

Lord Harris of Greenwich (Lib Dem) said that there was a backlog of some 100,000 cases. The Government should guarantee that there would be a sharp improvement in the situation within a matter of months.

Earl Ferrers, Minister of State, Home Office, said that there were 95,000, not 100,000, outstanding cases. Applications for compensation had increased from 43,000 to 53,000 last year.

Lord Mischon, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs in the Lords, said that if there were 50,000 applications a year, there must be some two-year-old cases that had not been started.

Football firms not to get aid

Companies that invested in designing the technology necessary for the football identity card scheme - which the Government has now decided not to implement - will not be compensated.

Mr Colin Mayhew, Minister for Sport, said in a written reply that the question of compensation did not arise. Companies had responded, in competition, to the invitation to tender for the national membership scheme issued by consultants on behalf of the football authorities.

The companies had been fully aware that, in considering whether to implement the scheme, the Government would take account of Lord Justice Taylor's final report.

E Europe and UK are compared

Labour MPs took advantage of Commons question about parliamentary contacts with the countries of Eastern Europe moving towards democracy to draw invidious comparisons between those burgeoning democracies and what they saw as the repressive nature of the British Government.

Mr David Wainick (Walsall North, Lab) said that countries which were beginning to establish parliamentary democracy would wonder why, in Britain, a Tory Government had taken away the right of a large number of people in local government to stand for another local authority or Parliament.

Dr John Cunningham, shadow Leader of the House, asked if recommendations were being made to these budding democracies that they should introduce 50 Acts of Parliament taking away powers from the local level? How many requests were being received about introducing a poll tax?

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Leader of the House, said that Eastern European countries were interested in the sensible pattern of local government taxation in Britain.

'Cash for UDM' claim denied

A claim that the Government was to give money to the Union of Democratic Mineworkers to allow it to buy into the coal industry when it was privatized was denied at question time by Mr John Wakeham, Secretary of State for Energy.

The claim was made by Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab). He asked Mr Wakeham to confirm that he had discussed with the leaders of the UDM the privatization arrangements for British Coal and that money would be "handed" to the UDM in order for it to set up companies in advance to buy in to British Coal. Had taxpayers' money been handed over to the UDM in any form?

Mr Wakeham said that no taxpayers' money had been handed over to the UDM. Mr Skinner was quite wrong if he thought he knew what went on during his meeting with the president of the UDM.

"I said that the Government was committed to privatization of the coal industry in the next session of Parliament, but that the Government had not yet determined the best way in which that should be done and that I would welcome his suggestions as to what he thought would be the best way for it to be done. I am awaiting his suggestions."

Mr Alex Eadie (Midlothian, Lab) asked whether Mr Wakeham had been candid and frank

on his talks with the UDM. Had he told it that the Government's policies would mean the biggest contraction, correspondingly, of coal mining in the North, since the Government had insisted that it would go ahead with the importation of low-sulphur coal?

Mr Wakeham said that the subject of low-sulphur coal had not been discussed, but had it been he would have told the UDM that the Government was committed to the European directive (on reducing sulphur emissions) and there had been no change in that.

He would also have said that the Government, like its predecessor, would not seek to restrict the importation of coal.

He had told the UDM that the future place of British Coal in the United Kingdom economy depended on its ability to be the supplier of choice to the generating industry.

Further energy questions included:

- The Government was challenged to set a better example on energy conservation. There were questions as to why the Prime Minister had spent 20.6 per cent more on central heating at 10 Downing Street.
- Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C) said that all over the country, buildings in the public sector had their lights on at noon on bright days, as well as that, they were far too hot.
- Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State for Energy, said that he chaired a committee of government departments to achieve precisely the aim that Mr Gow had said. Energy-efficient bulbs that had been installed in his own department used a fifth of the normal amount for light bulbs.
- Mr Skinner asked him to look at the figures for central heating in the Houses of Parliament.
- "In every year since I have been an MP, the authorities concerned have spent a small fortune every recess to try to get it right and they have not succeeded yet." What was the total bill? His guess was £20 million.
- Could Mr Morrison also go to Number 10 Downing Street and find out why the Prime Minister had spent 20.6 per cent extra on central heating. Was it because of Bernard Ingham and all the others he had got up there in the attic?
- Mr Morrison said that it would be for the Services Committee to look at Mr Skinner's first point. As far as the figures were concerned, he would look into every aspect in terms of cost and energy.
- It was a reasonable deduction that the price of privatized electricity would be lower than it would have been under a Labour government, Mr Wakeham said.
- He said that the return that the privatized electricity industry would earn would be slightly less than the 5 per cent return on assets which would have been required under Labour's policy had the industry remained in the state sector.
- The price of electricity had to be determined as a price which was not excessive and which enabled the industry to earn a reasonable rate of return.
- Mr Rhodri Morgan, an Opposition spokesman on energy, had asked Mr Wakeham if he would ask the chairman of the area electricity boards if they would agree with Mr John Baker, National Power chief executive-designate, that there was no economic reason for any increase at all in domestic electricity prices from April 1 and that, for the third year in succession, the Government was imposing an increase in these prices at least twice as high as the industry had asked for.
- He asked amid laughter whether the motives for "jacking up" electricity prices were a form of taxation, using fuel prices to encourage conservation - an insulated roof tax - or was it just that the rate of return was not high enough "for their friends in the City?"
- Mr Wakeham: You are quite wrong.

Move to stop pub 'opt-outs' rejected by Government

An attempt by the Opposition to prevent brewers and their public house tenants opting out of the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant (Licensed Premises) Bill, which extends greater protection to tenants, was defeated in the Commons.

An amendment to the Bill to prevent landlords and tenants mutually contracting out of the legislation was rejected by 160 votes to 64 - Government majority, 96.

Moving it, Mr Douglas Henderson, an Opposition spokesman on trade and in-

dustry, said that the Bill did not provide a proper balance in the relationship between the brewer and the public house tenant. Brewers would be able to put undue pressure on tenants to exclude themselves from the terms of the Bill.

Mr Stanley Crowther (Rotherham, Lab) said that the Government was moving in the right direction in extending the Landlord and Tenant Act to licensed premises. But their purpose would be frustrated if the contracting-out provisions were allowed to stand. The brewers

were being given a bitter pill and the opting-out provision was to sweeten it.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Barnon, C) said that the Government should write into the Bill "just a mite more protection" for licensees so that everyone could feel that the Bill was fair.

Mr John Redwood, Under Secretary of State for Corporate Affairs, said that the tenant and landlord had to go jointly to court to seek permission to have a contracted-out tenancy. That was a protection against undue pressure.

Man the House of Lords loves to hound

By Sheila Gann, Political Reporter

The fate of the Government's unloved scheme for student loans lies largely in the hands of Lord Cailness.

If the upper House gives it a bloody nose today in the crucial second reading vote, it will be by no means the first time that he has suffered defeat at the Dispatch Box.

In fact he must hold the title within the Government for the number of times he has been forced to give ground to rebellious peers over contentious Government legislation. This time he faces intense suspicion from the large band of vice-chancellors and other peers with university links in the Lords over the Government's scheme for interest-free loans.

After his debut as one of Lord Wakeham's "loyal scouts", the twentieth Earl of Cailness has gone on to survive revolts in the House of Lords over criminal justice reforms, poll tax, water privatization, housing and "peace" issues, as well as invasions of the Chamber by London schoolboys.

His own education was confined to Marlborough College and the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, where he took - and eventually passed - his chartered surveyor's examinations.

Now, at 41, he holds the post of Paymaster General - despite the restrictions on the power of the Lords to deal with money matters.

It is the first time in eight years that the upper House has had a Treasury minister - and he is expected an easy legislative session in his new post. But the lack of "heavyweights" on the government front bench has landed him with the Education (Student Loans) Bill



High Auditor, I should never discover the fraud."

But the key task for the present incumbent is to collect and save public money.

He is in charge of Customs and Excise, which collects £44 billion a year in value-added tax and excise duty; cuts executive public spending; handles the pensions of 1.4 million public servants; and negotiates Britain's contribution to the EC Budget.

He is working for better scrutiny and accountability of the £7 billion spent annually by the Government on non-military equipment. This year the executive received savings of £230 million.

He told *The Times*: "Until recently there was no great determination to make sure we are doing it in the best way. It should have been done a long time ago. We must demand better efficiency from Government and we will continue to press for it."

He advocates a move away from national pay agreements towards regional and locally agreed deals. More flexible working hours and the use of more part-time staff are also a priority, he said.

Partly through privatization, the number of civil servants has fallen to 570,000 under Thatcher administrations.

He predicts faster moves to relocate civil servants out of Whitehall as ministers recognize the potential savings.

Following the lead of the former incumbent, Mr Peter Brooke, he is not setting targets for the number of civil servants he would like to see left in Whitehall. Instead, the ones have been shifted to departmental ministers to come up with relocation schemes. They

are conscious of a sympathetic hearing from the Chief Secretary to the Treasury during the public spending round if they couple their bids with cost-saving schemes, such as relocating in the regions. Therefore more schemes are coming forward.

As an example, Lord Cailness will soon announce detailed plans for shifting 1,000 Customs and Excise staff from Southend to either Manchester or Liverpool.

He also has to help the service to cope with the challenge of the single internal market after 1992. It will mean, he said, more checks on trading accounts while keeping the ports of entry controls in the face of the threat from drugs and terrorism. There will be exchanges between officials throughout the Community with much more co-operation between forces.

"We want deregulation, but not to such an extent we can not check," he added.

Lord Cailness is also taking forward Britain's campaign to counter EC fraud, estimated to be as high as £6 billion a year. An EC committee report is due to be published soon. He believes that all 12 member states now have the political will to reduce it.

"There are people willing and able to abuse the system and, with increased technology, to do it in a very sophisticated way. We have to guard against that," he said.

"But there is now a sea change in Europe and they realize that a bureaucratic system like the common agricultural policy and VAT is open to fraud abuse and it is going to require a great deal of closer liaison by all the countries to stop this in the future."

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Pershing paranoia in the Kremlin

For more than 30 years of my life (including my student years) I observed and studied Soviet officialdom. I tried to discover what the sources were of its false picture of the world, its failure to understand the West, and lack of knowledge of the workings of democratic systems.

When the Communist Party, which has ruled the USSR on its own for more than 70 years, was formed at the beginning of this century there were a number of well-educated people among its leaders, with a fair knowledge of life in other European countries (Lenin, Trotsky, Kamenev, Bukharin, Litvinov). None of them, however, was involved in democratic activity in these countries; nor did they manage to acquire any useful experience in the brief period of democratic evolution in Russia from 1906 to 1917. At that time the Bolshevik faction was one of the smallest and weakest in the Russian Duma (parliament).

In its theory and philosophy the communist party has always been opposed to democracy, contemptuously dismissing it as a bourgeois parliamentary talking-shop and referring to political activity in a democratic society as "parliamentary cretinism". The civil war and liquidation of internal party democracy at the 10th Congress, and concentration of political, economic and military power in the party's own hands and the consequent alienation of the Soviet regime, both from neighbouring European states and from its own population, created a feeling of isolation.

This resulted in more embittered attacks on democratic institutions abroad and the interpretation of any information from the West as lying, hostile and subversive. This attitude hardened in the years of Stalin's dictatorship, while at the same time the regime developed paranoia, suspicion and a strong propensity to internal and external espionage.

The thin trickle of information from the West which still flowed during the Twenties was completely choked off. All publications which were not issued by the official state publishing houses were banned. Later on, when Western countries started to broadcast to the USSR, these broadcasts were jammed.

The KGB was one of the organizations responsible for concealing this information from the public. It compiled lists of subjects, constantly brought up to date, which it was either forbidden to mention at all, or on which specific facts or figures might not be given. The list of these subjects alone filled volumes and volumes, and KGB officers were obliged to

familiarize themselves with them.

When I read them I discovered, among much else, that the following subjects had been banned: the number and location of concentration camps; the war with Finland in 1939-1940; the deportation of Estonians, Latvians and Lithuanians to Siberia; contacts with Germans after the partition of Poland in 1939; the numbers of losses, including prisoners of war, in 1944-45; the causes of the Korean War and Soviet aid for North Korea in 1950-53 and financial aid for communist parties abroad.

I searched for any referring to Great Britain and found, among others: details of preparation for the trial of Metro-Vickers engineers in 1933; involvement of British organizations and individuals in the work of the Comintern, the international arm of Soviet communism; the extent and nature of British aid for the USSR during the Second World War; the size and strength of the Soviet Embassy in London; details concerning the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee's contacts with British political and social groups.

The repression unleashed by Stalin led to almost complete extinction in the USSR of all those

people, party members and others, who had known and understood life outside the Soviet Union or been involved in the democratic movement in pre-revolutionary Russia. The total brainwashing of the population began under Stalin, resulting, in Aleksandr Zinoviev's words, in the creation of "homo sovieticus" — a being whose way of thinking did not reflect the realities of the surrounding world, but an artificially created false version of them. This indoctrination continued up to when glasnost began and traces of it still exercise a powerful influence in many places.

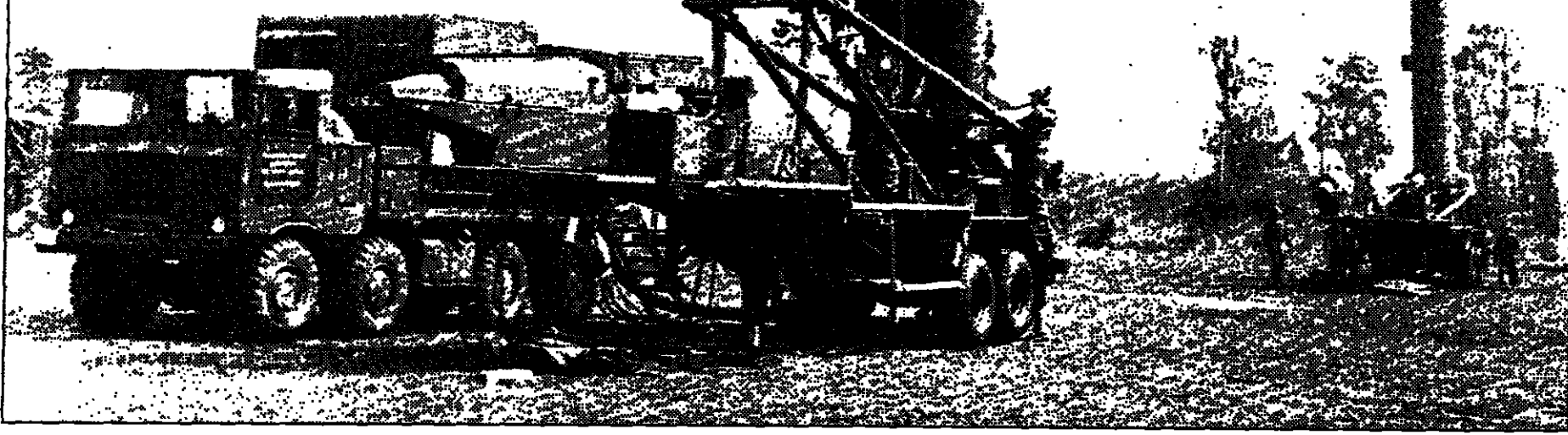
Nevertheless, there was a tacit realization that official propaganda was creating a less than adequate picture of the world. There had to be people who still had the opportunity to get to know information coming from the West to give a sharper edge to propaganda, to prepare counter-arguments and act as consultants for taking more balanced foreign policy decisions.

During the Second World War, a group of selected propagandists had access to the most hostile material put out by the Nazis. When I was in the KGB in the 1960s and 1970s, officers who were working against the West were allowed to read a wide range of Western publications. I myself was glad to make use of this. But one must not overestimate



In the first of three articles, Oleg Gordievsky, former KGB officer turned double agent,

describes how the closing of minds in the Soviet Union led to a fantastic image of the world — and a leadership with a near-fatal vision of the West as a nuclear aggressor



America's Pershing missile: when it was deployed in Europe, it was feared in Moscow that it would be powerful enough to destroy the Kremlin leadership's underground shelters

the importance of these persons in regard to the information available to the people. They exercised no considerable influence on government thinking — at any rate up to the mid-1980s — being few in number and only used occasionally, merely as pundits. Furthermore, they were not the most perfect interpreters of Western policy and thinking since they had usually only obtained access to genuine information in their thirties when they were already cast in the Soviet Marxist mould. One must add to all this the fact

that in inauspicious periods of Soviet history access to information from outside was restricted even for the small groups of experts. In the "age of stagnation" (the Brezhnev era) I noticed that even in the KGB the security classification applied to Western publications was heightened (editorials from *The Times* occupied a prominent place among them), sharply restricting officers' access to them. KGB officers on foreign language courses traditionally began their English lesson with listening to summaries of BBC

World Service news. However, items containing "anti-Soviet news" were erased before the recording was given to the students. How well informed were the leaders of the USSR themselves? From 1929 to the time of Gorbachev there was not one man in the Politburo with a real understanding of the West. They made up for this by cunning, ruthlessness, relentless striving to gain the upper hand, and knowledge of certain weaknesses of the West, on which they had information from diplomats and intelligence officers.

The leaders of the USSR, of course, had access to all information about the outside world, but usually displayed a profound lack of understanding of the West. The reason is that their minds were formed in a climate of communist indoctrination, ideology and pseudo-scientific Leninist rhetoric. When they arrived in power and obtained access to any kind of information, they had the finished mentality of "homo sovieticus".

No information from the West could help them to acquire understanding since they had neither the time nor the desire to embark on self-education. It is true that they wasted a fair amount of time in reading secret telegrams from Soviet embassies abroad and KGB stations. However, contrary to the view widely held outside the Soviet Union, it is not the task of Soviet diplomats or intelligence officers to explain the workings and ways of the West to the Soviet leadership. All that is required of them is to inform the Kremlin of political decisions and foreign policy measures which concern the USSR, of plans for forthcoming manoeuvres and also to procure military and strategic information. This kind of information only scrapes the surface of Western life.

At a fairly early stage in the existence of the Soviet regime its isolation produced the phenomenon of seeing its opponent as a mirror image of itself. Expressed in practical terms, it sounded like: "They [the West] are basically like us, only more sophisticated. Democracy is a nonsense — nothing like that can exist. Parliament is just a facade. The government can do anything it wants, but it does not always wish to do so. Nobody can be independent of the government. Political parties are simply a trick to deceive the workers. Freedom of the press is a fraud and a means of manipulating the population by the bourgeois. The workers are still being exploited by the capitalist class. The police and security services are all-powerful and have files on practically everyone. There are hundreds of political prisoners in the jails. The intelligence services are carrying on espionage on a massive scale against the USSR, sending thousands of agents to Russia to gather intelligence and carry out ideological subversion." This list of stereotyped ideas could be continued *ad infinitum*.

The explanation of the Soviet leaders' ignorance lies not only in their self-isolation and self-imposed ideology, but also in their arrogance and vanity. Many of them considered that, having mastered "scientific socialism" —

a developed theory of a socialist economy based on Marx's teachings — they were superior to the capitalists, who had not assimilated this "advanced theory".

I was once in a group where I had the opportunity of observing and listening to the secretary of the Central Committee, Kapitonov, the future General Secretary, Konstantin Chernenko, and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, and had occasion to listen to speeches by Khrushchev, Brezhnev, and of course the heads of the KGB, Vladimir Semichastny,

diplomats, he talked about capitalism rotting away and the inevitable victory of communism, the aggressive NATO alliance, the decadent influence of Western propaganda and liberal ideas, aimed at undermining the ideological foundations of the USSR. He also spoke of the boundless love the nation bore for its communist party.

In the late Seventies the age factor began to influence the Soviet leadership. Rumours that Brezhnev had suffered clinical death were circulating widely in Moscow. Brezhnev's role was a passive one in his later years and it is not clear even now who was taking the decisions on foreign policy issues. It appears to have been a group of Brezhnev's advisers, some Neo-Stalinists from the International Department of the Central Committee and in the Politburo, Dmitri Ustinov, Gromyko and Andropov.

There was in these people's minds a strange combination of ideas of the West as essentially an aggressive and instantly fully armed opponent, and at the same time a feeble opposite number in negotiations who for the sake of progress in strategic arms limitation and preservation of détente would be guided by the parity principle agreed with the USSR and swallow Soviet expansion in Africa, Central America and Afghanistan, as well as deployment of SS-20s in Europe (from Moscow's point of view this was part of nuclear parity). Politicians who were sharply critical of the USSR's conduct at this time aroused the strongest irritation in the Kremlin. The propaganda machinery received instructions to mount a campaign to discredit Mrs Thatcher, President Reagan and the late Franz-Josef Strauss, the conservative German politician, and the KGB was called upon to take part in it.

The text of a 23-page libel on Mrs Thatcher prepared by the KGB in 1980 passed through my hands when it was sent to KGB stations abroad, to be given to "agents of influence" — KGB contacts working in the political arena — who were to get it published under their own names. Discussing Mrs Thatcher's foreign policy the 1980 leaflet suggested that: "... Thatcher tried to make a bargain with the EEC partners along these lines: Britain as Europe's 'defender' will increase her defence budget in exchange for her partners' agreement to reduce the British contribution to the Common Market".

Mrs Thatcher's and President Reagan's election victories, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's hard line and NATO's decision in 1979 on deployment of medium-range missiles in Western Europe, and the sharp reaction to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan were heavy defeats for Soviet foreign policy, resulting from inadequate understanding of the West.

The deployment of "Pershing" was a particularly serious blow. It was believed in Moscow that these missiles had enormous penetrative power and would in the event of war destroy the Kremlin leadership's underground shelters, a system of complex bunkers constructed beneath Moscow and its environs, with comfortable quarters, offices, power plants, storage depots for food and water



Vladimir Kryuchkov, one of the former chiefs of the KGB

'In 1988 he confessed that we did not take into account the real shades of difference of attitudes of those with whom we were dealing'

Yuri Andropov, Viktor Chebrikov and Vladimir Kryuchkov. These speeches were not reported in the West. Kapitonov not only had no understanding of Western life, he was also intellectually conspicuously below average. Nevertheless, he carried on in a leading function for around 40 years and was retired only a couple of years ago.

Brezhnev, Andropov, Chebrikov and Kryuchkov always used prepared texts, irrespective of their audience, and the speeches were full of bureaucratic communist jargon. Khrushchev's simplified and distorted understanding of the West can be judged from his *Memoirs* published in the West. His authenticity has recently been confirmed in the USSR.

Gromyko was old-fashioned and doctrinaire, with a total absence of sparkle or sense of humour. He had no very profound understanding of the West, but at least he was master of foreign policy. The one who made the most leaden impression was Chernenko. Speaking to a group of

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The Soviet leadership in the "age of stagnation": Leonid Brezhnev is obediently applauded by (from second left) Andropov, Chernenko, Ustinov, Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov and Gromyko as he addresses the Supreme Soviet Praesidium in 1982.

and an underground railway network. However, Nato's desire to maintain its hold on Western Europe was thus turned into a mortal threat to the Soviet leadership itself.

The success of the campaign against the neutron bomb in America and Europe, inspired to a considerable extent by Moscow, encouraged the Kremlin to attempt to mobilize peace groups in Western Europe to combat deployment of Pershing and cruise missiles. Even KGB officers, who are used to anything, stared at these plans in disbelief. The Soviet Union had deployed more than 300 Soviet medium-range missiles with three nuclear warheads, — approximately 12 times greater than the total number of targets of any importance in Western Europe. Would anyone really be found to protest against a handful of Western missiles?

Yes they would, and in large numbers. Movements such as the Greens in West Germany, the CND and the women at Greenham Common in Britain were already in existence and ready to protest on their own account. Officials and delegations from the west, including Britain, were also actively courted by Soviet front organizations such as the World Peace Council and the Soviet Peace Committee.

The International Department of the Central Committee rejoiced and took the credit for mobilizing the masses of Western European pacifists to defend the interests of one of the superpowers. The KGB, whose help had been requested in this matter, also reported successes of its "agents of influence" who had been involved in meetings and demonstrations, publishing articles in newspapers and putting parliamentary questions. When it became clear that it was impossible to get the Western governments to reverse the decision to deploy the missiles, Moscow gave orders for support for the campaign to be continued as a means of promoting more widespread pro-Soviet sympathy in the minds of the Western public.

In the face of Pershing, which could reach Moscow in six minutes from West German bases, and reports received from its intelligence service of an essentially new type of weapon being developed in America which would be able to render the Soviet deterrent useless (the future Strategic Defence Initiative — Star Wars), the Kremlin panicked. In so far as I was able to interpret them, its reactions — after the mirror image principle — were as follows: "If we had a nuclear potential like the USA and a system which would eliminate their nuclear deterrent, would we deliver a pre-emptive nuclear strike against our sworn adversary? In all probability, yes. In that case, we must begin to prepare immediately for an American attack."

It was therefore resolved to keep a close watch for any signs of preparation for such an attack, and all branches of intelligence gathering were brought into action. From 1982 to 1985 the KGB station in London had to watch for

any signs of increased activity at 10 Downing Street, the Ministry of Defence, the Foreign Office, the American Embassy and in the secret services and emergency services and inform Moscow Centre of the findings at fortnightly intervals. I have frequently heard people ask in recent years: "Is it possible that anyone in Moscow seriously believed that the West could commit aggression and launch a nuclear war?" The answer is, unfortunately, yes, there were such people and evidently, from 1980 to 1985 they were in the



Aleksandr Yakovlev, the former Soviet Ambassador to Canada

'His inclusion was a sign of progress. After 60 years there was a man in the Politburo who knew the West from personal experience'

majority in the political and military leadership of the USSR.

There is confirmation of this, in particular, in the speech made by Kryuchkov the then deputy head of the KGB and head of the intelligence service at a conference at the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1988. With glasnost and the new political thinking already in full swing, he was still affirming, as was the case six years before, that it was the principal mission of diplomacy and intelligence not to overlook the immediate danger of nuclear conflict. Interviewed on Hungarian television in 1989, Marshal Sergei Akhromyev declared that in 1984 he believed that the USA could attack the USSR.

However, at the level of responsible officials, analysts and operational staff of the KGB the task of watching for signs of preparation for an attack was simply regarded as the latest piece of folly on the part of their chiefs. Nor, of course, did the diplomats — MFA personnel — believe in this nonsense. Nevertheless, no one in the KGB or the MFA dared to tell the

Kremlin frankly that there were no grounds for all this fuss. The KGB, and to an even greater extent the GRU, conscious that Moscow was expecting corroboration of its notion that the West was preparing to launch a nuclear attack, sent in fortnightly reports which, even if they may not have supplied convincing confirmation of the theory, by no means disproved it.

Shortly after Gorbachev's arrival all this nonsense came to an end, and in two years the new political thinking, that is, readjustment of Soviet foreign policy based on a more sober and enlightened approach to the outside world, was introduced. What had happened?

In my opinion three factors played a decisive role here. In spite of "turning the screws" as regards access to information in the late Seventies, the number of people who were well informed about life outside the USSR had continued to increase. Having become a global superpower, the Soviet Union was forced to expand its army of diplomats, intelligence personnel, propagandists, correspondents, academic specialists on international affairs, and military personnel serving abroad. The KGB alone, which was active in 70 countries in the 1960s, now began to operate in more than 100. In the same period its strength increased from 3,000 to 12,000 officers. The KGB stations in Washington, New York, West Germany, France, Italy, Austria and India numbered a hundred or more officers. Notwithstanding the efforts of ideologists and censors to restrict the spread of information from those serving abroad, this became increasingly difficult to achieve. The detailed daily foreign press reviews produced by Tass made a positive contribution in this respect, since although the material which was most critical of the Kremlin was usually suppressed, the reviews had a fairly wide circulation among the upper and middle strata of the establishment in Moscow.

Second, an important change in the leadership had occurred in the person of Gorbachev. His mind, like those of many of his contemporaries, had been formed under Khrushchev's liberalism, and although he had absorbed many of the traditional communist dogmas and misconceptions, he knew that communism was not flawless and he was ready to listen to competent advice.

Third, and this is the most important point, Gorbachev selected as his principal advisor an intelligent academic, a former ambassador to Canada, Aleksandr Yakovlev, a man with a much greater understanding of the West than any of the previous advisors. It is true that in the West anti-American tendencies had been noted in his books, but this is due to a combination of two things: his tribute to the dominant ideology (no-one in the USSR could have achieved a career while avowing his sympathies with the west), and prejudices instilled by Soviet propaganda which he retained. Yakovlev's inclusion in the Politburo was a sign of enormous progress. For the first time in 60 years there was a man in the Soviet leadership who knew the

West from personal experience and whose vision was only slightly dimmed by the mists of Marxism. Thanks to Yakovlev, there was a complete change of character in the way in which the Kremlin was supplied with information from the diplomatic and intelligence services. They were not only allowed to report truthfully and objectively, they were instructed to do so.

In 1988 Kryuchkov, confessed that: "In the past we did not distinguish very well between the

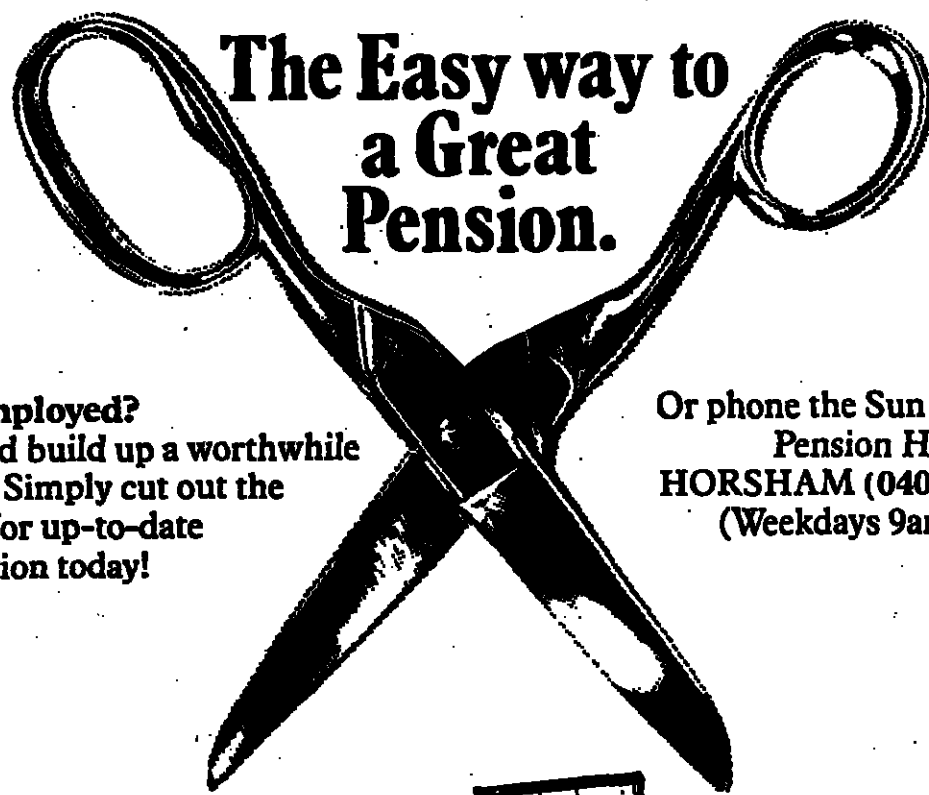
social and the political aspects of modern society and the many nuances and different trends in the disposition of political forces. The MFA experienced a still more drastic conversion to the truth under Eduard Shevardnadze in the mid-Eighties, who gave his full support to Yakovlev and Gorbachev. A reappraisal of the approach to studying life in the outside world was initiated in universities and other academic centres and glasnost began to unlock the floodgates for a stream of genuine accurate information

about Europe and America to reach the public as a whole.

The abandonment of traditional Soviet stereotypes, and more reliable information supplied to Moscow by representatives abroad have produced an improvement in the quality of foreign policy thinking. The decisions then made — the withdrawal from Afghanistan, the removal of medium-range missiles from Europe, and the liberation of Eastern Europe from Moscow's control — are the real, fundamental achievements of Gorbachev.

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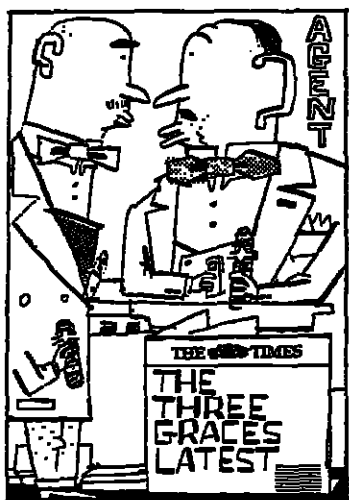
TIMES DIARY

ALAN HAMILTON

The Inner London Education Authority, on which the death sentence will be carried out on March 31 under the 1988 Education Reform Act, does not intend to die without a fair old wake. Famed for one of the worst exam records and one of the highest truancy levels in Britain, in spite of spending more per pupil than any other authority, the ILA plans to celebrate its illustrious achievements with a gala celebration of music, dance, poetry and art at the Royal Albert Hall on the night before its abolition. And that's not all; far from being abashed at its shortcomings, it plans services at St Paul's and Southwark cathedrals, a TV spectacular on London Weekend, and a community play on the 120-year history of London-wide education. Which, if it sticks to the facts, should make the last act of *Macbeth* a light comedy by comparison, although I do not know whether the Lady Macbeth who urged this particular murder is among the characters. The jollifications are all part of an attempt by the ILA's personable leader, Neil Fletcher, to emulate Ken Livingstone's glitzy staging of the GLC's abolition. After Ken's riverside spectacular there was scarcely a dry eye in the house. Neil may have more trouble in persuading the capital's parents to shed a tear.

Thousands of London householders have been puzzled in recent days to receive among their junk mail a brochure depicting on the front Antony and Cleopatra in a pose of impending intimacy, under the bold invitation, "Consider the delights of a foreign affair." What is this, an ad for Club Med singles holidays up the Nile? Not exactly; it's a recruiting campaign by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. "Age between 17 and 55; no previous experience needed." And there was I thinking they still traveled Balliol and Trinity. All right, so they're not looking to replace Braithwaite in Moscow or that other Antony, Acland in Washington; the mail shot is in search of humbler office staff. But isn't it still a bit tacky? That's the idea; a lot of people don't really understand what the FCO does, a woman in the recruitment section said gaily. No mention of foreign travel, by the way.

BARRY FANTONI



"It breaks my heart. An all-girl group with that kind of exposure - we'd be killed."

An ominous silence, I fear, from Dr Ronald Scheel, whose epic journey by Transatlantic from East Germany to the Beaulieu motor museum in Hampshire I reported last week. There has been no further news from the good doctor since his trusty two-stroke was hit by a lorry near Stuttgart. If anyone out there knows of his fate, the message is that Beaulieu have had dozens of offers of Transatlantics since my item appeared, but Dr Scheel and his P001 Lunousine with solid glass-fibre chassis is the one they want. The only fresh information as of last night is that the bold motoring refugee is a doctor of engineering. Considering what he was driving, it might have been better had he been a plastic surgeon.

My recent report on the difficulties the Faroe Islanders are facing in getting the British to chip in for the 50th anniversary of the "friendly invasion" to keep the islands out of German hands prompts a response from the Rev George Stokes of Oxford. Chaplain to the occupation force, he recalls that the cruiser Belfast sailed in, and its captain went ashore to be greeted by the Danish governor. "I must protest against this infringement of our neutrality," said the governor. "But we got a cruiser in the bay," said the captain. "So I see," replied the governor. "Come and have some whisky." We should give their planned British Week our every support, if only to repay that drink.

Last reminder that you have until Friday to win a bottle of 17-year old Glenfiddich single malt by providing not more than 100 words of fanciful Budget speech. Serious entries are, as usual, forbidden. John Major and shadows, I await your entries. Attempts to "Budget". The Times Diary, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

Was Concor Cruise O'Brien being deliberately provocative in his article on this page on February 15 calling for sanctions against South Africa to be eased - or did he really mean it? Either way, his arguments do not stand up to analysis.

For a start, he warns off those who cite Nelson Mandela as an opponent of lifting sanctions. He criticizes Neil Kinnock for speaking "as if Mandela personally" was calling for their continuation, and he goes on: "But he made it plain that this was the policy of the ANC" - which, he implied, Mandela slavishly echoed without really meaning it.

Compare that with Mandela's own words on BBC television on Friday: "I don't see any reason for a review of sanctions until a settlement is reached between the oppressed people of the country and the government." That sounds like a pretty personal opinion to me.

As for the ANC, O'Brien dismisses its advocacy of continued sanctions by asserting that "collectively, it has no particular expertise about white politics". He derides politicians such as "Messrs Kinnock and Kaufman" who are in thrall to it. "All

Gerald Kaufman puts the case for continuing pressure on Pretoria

Why sanctions must stay

they could say was: 'The ANC says so, so it must be done.' As it happens, every sensible observer ought to pay attention to the views of the ANC because one day it will form the government of a free South Africa and will have vivid memories of those (including Britain under Mrs Thatcher) who supported its oppressors.

In any case, it is nonsense to accuse glibble Kinnock and Kaufman of listening to the views of the ANC alone and ignoring those of others with an allegedly more authoritative stance.

President Bush, for example, was swift to rebut Mrs Thatcher's rash claim that he endorsed her move to ease sanctions. Only two months ago, in a declaration which had British support, the United Nations General Assembly demanded the release of all political prisoners and detainees, removal of all troops from the

townships, repeal of the Internal Security Act and the end of the State of Emergency before sanctions could be relaxed. None of these demands has yet been met.

The sanction on new investment which Mrs Thatcher has just lifted was imposed by the European Community Decision of October 27, 1986, having been passed by the Council of Ministers under the presidency of Sir Geoffrey Howe. According to the Decision's preamble, it was necessary because of the "refusal of the government of South Africa to take concrete measures leading to the abolition of apartheid". Although President De Klerk's recent announcement is to be welcomed, it does not touch the fabric of apartheid.

O'Brien might say that all past pronouncements on South Africa are invalidated by Mandela's release, that no one could have banked on it, and that it changes everything (though not,

as we now know, Mandela's own view of sanctions). Mandela's release had been widely expected, just before the Commonwealth conference in Kuala Lumpur last October, as a stunt to stymie discussion of tougher sanctions.

Despite their conviction that Mandela would soon be freed, the Commonwealth leaders declared that the "justification for sanctions against South Africa... was... to abolish apartheid by bringing Pretoria to the negotiating table and keeping it there until that change was irreversibly secured". Does O'Brien honestly believe that De Klerk's measures abolish apartheid irreversibly?

If he were to counter that Mrs Thatcher is not bound by the Kuala Lumpur statement because she dissociated herself from parts of it, there are two answers to this. The first is that the passage I have just quoted is

one from which she specifically did not dissociate herself. Secondly, her personal statement at Kuala Lumpur stipulated "the necessary steps" after which "it would be right to lift some of the measures imposed by the international community". One of those was the lifting of the State of Emergency, which, of course, is still in place.

By relaxing key sanctions now, Mrs Thatcher has breached not only the policies of the UN, the EC and the Commonwealth, to all of which she is a signatory, but her own word as well. What is more, that personal word was buttressed in her statement by the recommendations of the Eminent Persons Group which visited South Africa, and to which she nominated a representative. Another bunch of nincompoops bewitched by the ANC?

O'Brien is also wrong in the main thrust of his article. He

tries to scare us into believing that unless we give De Klerk a comforting hug without delay, there is a danger of "the loss of so many of his followers that the Conservatives that he could no longer deliver his policy of getting away from apartheid".

Here he ignores the fact that in the whites-only election last September, 70 per cent of voters rejected the Conservative party in the full knowledge that Mandela would soon be released and that other important steps would be taken. There would have to be an enormous backlash for the Conservatives to win sufficient support to imperil De Klerk's reforms.

Negotiations in South Africa have yet to begin. Relaxation of sanctions now might encourage De Klerk to believe that he can get away with fewer reforms than have been demanded by the international community (including, however reluctantly, Mrs Thatcher). She has eased sanctions and is contemplating easing more because she would not mind him getting away with less.

I cannot believe that in his heart Concor Cruise O'Brien really shares her view. The author is Labour spokesman on foreign affairs.

Storms today but a scorching '92

Has the Government lost its way? Norman Tebbit talks of it having no sense of direction or purpose, though many would suppose it has much the same approach and goals as when he was in the Cabinet. Nevertheless, his public misgivings must depress his ex-colleagues, even though they are accustomed to his occasionally bizarre comments.

Many factors are working against the Government. The most obvious is exceptionally high interest rates and the consequent annoyance of mortgagees. That they are suffering little or no hardship is left out of consideration. Repossessions fell from 22,930 in 1987 to 13,780 in 1989. Only 0.73 per cent of all mortgages were in arrears of 6-12 months in the second half of last year.

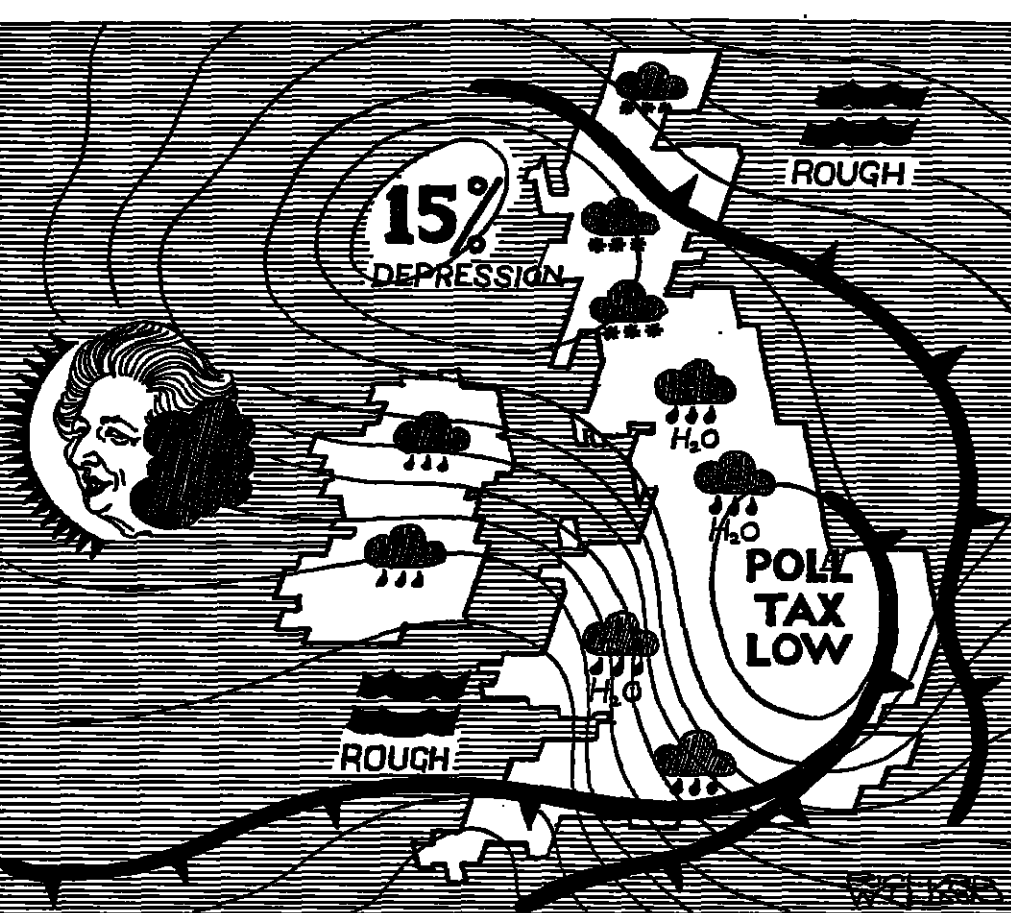
Lenders are desperate to avoid evictions and to accommodate borrowers in difficulties unless it is clear they should never have taken out a mortgage and that no further payments will be forthcoming. Rarely is a mortgagee unable to extend his repayment period or come to some other arrangement to lower his monthly outgoings.

Owning their own homes is still the best investment most people ever make, although house prices may fall temporarily this year by between 5 and 10 per cent. Yet the mistaken view of the 9.5 million mortgagees that they are hard done by is echoed by unthinking Tory MPs who massage their grievances.

A number of Tory council chairmen and MPs behave similarly towards the community charge. Undoubtedly this is highly unpopular in advance of its introduction and before its effects are known. As so many of its own supporters are against the charge, the Government's position is weakened. And the knowledge that electricity and water prices will rise after privatization is another minus for the Government. In the case of water, it is difficult to see how all the necessary purification measures can be implemented without extra expense, though this will not add much to consumers' bills.

More or less unchallenged, Labour has presented itself as a new moderate Thatcher look-alike party which will increase taxation mildly, for those earning more than £15,000 a year but will punish top-rate earners by increasing their taxation to 59.5 per cent, including a 9.5 per cent increase of their national insurance contribution. Hitting the rich is usually attractive in our envious society.

Not in defence so powerful a weapon for the Tories as hitherto. The changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe remove the fear in many minds of Soviet aggression, although opinion polls steadily show a large majority in favour of Britain keeping nuclear weapons so long as the Russians do. Maybe there is a hope that a Kinnock government would somehow fudge the issue and keep nuclear weapons anyway.



Woodrow Wyatt sees more than a ray of hope for the Tories despite the high interest rates now depressing their fortunes

The Government's attitude towards the EC, and its wish to have safeguards over German reunification (particularly for the repeatedly dismembered Poland) are probably supported, but there are not many votes in foreign policy, for the British have never been greatly interested in it. Our habit is to kick it will be all right on the night and to cheer a Chamberlain after he has appeased an expansionist dictator, leaving it somewhat late to prepare and fight like lions if a war comes.

Another problem for the Government is its sheer longevity. The new generation is unaware of what life was like under Labour, and many of the older generation have forgotten. The suggestion that the Iron Lady has gone rusty is seductive. Few realize that her successors would try a startlingly different democracy modelled on Sweden, where it has now collapsed in complete disaster. The public have still to be convinced that a Kinnock government would not be at all the same as the present government, which has strikingly raised living standards and prosperity all round. There is a cosy feeling that little would alter, apart from vastly increased spending on the NHS and welfare services, for which the money would readily be found on the trees.

This illusion is fostered by BBC and ITV broadcasts and in some significant parts of the

press, where more common sense might have been looked for. It is not dispelled by the sullen silence of some prominent members of the Government such as Sir Geoffrey Howe, from whom vigorous and unequivocal defence of the Government and exhortation to Labour's policy are eagerly awaited in some quarters. Perhaps he has forgotten he is deputy prime minister.

So what is going well for the Government? Its first real bonus for some time has been the ambulance dispute. Last weekend's polls - miserable for the Conservatives - were taken before the dispute ended in defeat for the union negotiators: a total vindication of the Government's determination to prevent a surge in inflation, which, had the ambulance men succeeded, would have followed through widespread imitation of their outrageous claims. Mr Roger Poole, the ambulance men's chief negotiator, said after the settlement on Friday that this had been his intention all along, although he had not told the sentimental public who were busy filling the ambulance men's buckets. The Government's poll ratings have clearly been damaged by the dispute, and that element of dissatisfaction will soon disappear.

The result of the next election will depend mostly on perceptions of the economy. At present these are not flattering, though gleams of light are appearing. The respected London Business School, reported in *The Sunday Times*, predicts lower interest rates later this year and a fall by a third (to 10 per cent) in early 1992. The School thinks the growth rate will be 1 per cent this year, but more than 2.5 per cent in 1991. It also believes the inflation rate will drop to 5.9 per cent in 1991 and 4.9 per cent in 1992. That would be a relief to Mrs Thatcher, who has said she may be judged by the Government's control of inflation. The School anticipates a 1990 growth in exports of 8.5 per cent despite a 1.5 per cent rise in imports.

Possibly the improvements will not have sunk in by the early summer of 1991, a time which, on past showing, Mrs Thatcher would choose for the election. But an election is not required before July 1992. Despite the evident demoralization of the Macmillan government at the end of its 13 years, and Sir Alec Douglas-Home having had only 10 months as prime minister, Labour won by a mere five seats in 1964.

If Sir Alec could manage that, it should not be beyond Mrs Thatcher, full of vigour and ideas, to win by at least 30 seats and probably by not much less than the majority she has now. She will be much helped if Tories resume their traditional loyalty and do not run for cover, or more disreputable places, when frightened by enemy gunfire.

The forceful Kenneth Baker, party chairman, needs their united backing in exposing the frailty of Labour's policies, not least in its vague plan to replace the community charge by something really cruel and unfair to almost everyone.

The presenter ended yesterday's *Today* programme - itself now a regular topic on these pages - with the words: "What a day! Upset in Nicaragua. Stock Exchange crash in Tokyo. Gales in Britain." He seemed to imply that gales here were much less surprising and regrettable than electoral defeat for the Sandinistas in Nicaragua.

Certainly the media had long been conditioning us to expect victory for Daniel Ortega and his *comandantes*. I last visited Nicaragua nearly three years ago and, faced with the near-unanimity of the world's press in recent weeks, had come to accept that the situation I found then had changed fundamentally. Yesterday's election result demonstrated that little had changed after all.

Many Nicaraguans have an interest in the survival of the Sandinista regime: they are employed by it, serve in its large army or in a variety of political organizations based on the Leninist model.

The great majority, however, have long been hostile to the *Frente* government, and contemptuous of its claims. They are surprisingly ready, particularly outside Managua, to lament that living conditions were far better under the de-facto Somoza dictatorship.

The suggestion that their deprivations were largely the result of Contra attacks and the US blockade is widely rejected. People point to the US offer of massive aid when Somoza was toppled in 1979, and to the build-up of the Nicaraguan army - making it by far the largest in the region - which the Sandinistas began before the Contras started to operate.

Given the barrage of anti-American propaganda in the state-controlled media, the average Nicaraguan is surprisingly well-disposed towards the US. Indeed, the American baseball results carried on the sports pages are much more eagerly read than the thundering leaders denouncing Washington's latest alleged outrage.

The great majority of Western visitors to Nicaragua seem to have ignored or to have been unaware of the resistance to the Sandinistas among devout Catholics and in the struggling trade union movement. The leader of the Catholic Church, Cardinal Obando y Bravo, is a deeply impressive man, with a record of opposition to the previous dictatorship, but few Western correspondents were ready to accept his pessimistic analysis of what was happening to his country. They preferred the testimony of the foreign minister, Miguel d'Escoto, a former priest who is now forbidden to say Mass. Stories of Sandinista oppression of trade unions seldom found their way into the world's press.

How could the Western media have got things so badly wrong? It is, of course, by no means the first, although it is probably one of the worst examples of this failing. It seems that most reporters visiting Nicaragua

were gulled - often because they wished to be - and that subsequently they misled their readers, viewers and listeners.

Most of them arrived with their minds made up, accepting the conventional wisdom that the Sandinistas are a group of well-intentioned socialists struggling to protect their country from the depredations of a fascist opposition supported by US imperialism.

Once in Nicaragua, they were taken in hand by a slick government information machine, which passed them on to representatives of churches, international aid agencies and other Western expatriates who could be trusted to promote the official line. This manipulation of visitors was easy because few of them spoke enough Spanish to dispense with interpreters.

So it is not difficult to understand how the world has been fooled. What is more surprising is that Ortega appears to have convinced himself that he would be able to win Sunday's election without recourse to the sort of strong-arm measures on which he relied for his election "victory" in 1984. He seems to have believed that his position was virtually invulnerable. Secret government funding gave him immense patronage, and treated the media with a strong hand.

In 1979, the *Frente* simply took over Somoza's television stations, which are all now controlled by the "Sandinista Television System". The opposition broadcasts that were permitted were confined to a single, technically inferior television channel which did not broadcast to the whole country.

The government's television propaganda campaign sought to link the opposition parties with the Nazis, bribery and civil war. With these tactics, and in the belief that he could rely on the loyalty of the army, Ortega felt confident enough to invite thousands of international observers to attest the fairness of the elections and to witness the victory he anticipated.

Ortega is now caught in a dilemma. Having achieved what Mrs Glensy Kinnock has enthusiastically described as a "clean bill of health for the election process", it will be difficult for him to repudiate the people's verdict. If he tries, it is doubtful whether the army will back him. Commentators who were explaining the reasons for Ortega's success until the results started to come in are now turning with hostility on the victors, the National Opposition Union led by Señora Violeta Chamorro. They suggest that the anti-Sandinista coalition will quickly break up. Certainly the new government - if it is allowed to take office - will face massive difficulties, but it will begin with a wave of popular support.

As in Eastern Europe, so in Nicaragua the voice of the people has made itself heard above the babble of the pundits. The author, *Conservative MP for Wycombe*, is chairman of the all-party Latin American Committee.

Can I eat my little friends?



ALAN COREN

Up until a year or so ago, I should not have given them a second thought. The first thought would have been ample. The first thought would have been to kick the life out of them. But Jonathan Porritt has changed all that. They are my brothers now. Possibly my dinner. *Pace* W.H. Auden, we must eat one another or die. One day, after all, they will eat me. They like it around cemeteries.

They also, suddenly, like it around my lawn. I do not know why this should be so when it wasn't before, though I suppose it is the greenhouse effect, because everything else seems to be (I have not the slightest doubt that the recent peculiar events in Eastern Europe will all turn out to be meteorological in origin). They always visited my lawn regularly, mind, but you could tell they didn't like it, because they died,

and that is generally a reliable test of whether something likes anything. In fact, you hardly needed boots in the old days, I would spot them from the window, standing wonkily in little sporadic gangs, thin, pale, sickly, and by the time I had pulled my wellies on for the kicking and run outside, they would have keeled over and withered.

Yesterday I woke early, thanks to the month's third hurricane, and hurried to the bedroom window to see what had been horizontalized this time. (If this climatic change is permanent, the architecture of England will be compelled to change permanently with it. We shall all have to live in

circular bungalows with flat roofs, and no one will be allowed to grow a tree taller than four feet. The only fences you see will be in museums.) Anyway, the garden contained the usual detritus of trellis, tiles, bushes, bin-lids, flower-pots, and other assorted stuff which the night had brought to Crickwood from Huddersfield and Rhyll - but these were not what trapped the attention. They, after all, were merely scattered across the lawn. They did not cover it.

What covered it was mushrooms. Not, furthermore, the emaciated specimens of yesterday. These were serious fungi. You

could tell that not merely from their size, but from the fact that the gale seemed to be having no effect on them. They did not flinch. They did not snap. When it comes to roofing, I said to myself, the gnomes can teach us a thing or two.

I hurried downstairs and out into the howling dawn, booted, but only against the wet. There would be no kicking today partly, as I say, because the Earth requires us to be one band of brothers, now, but also because we have learned not to squander her benisons. The mushrooms were no longer a parasite on my lawn, they were a crop on my field. They also, it must be said, pandered to that fantasy of self-sufficiency which has ever tugged the sleeve of urban man: this year mushrooms, next year barley, a pig where the rockery is, perhaps, fruit trees where the incessant

roses stand, hens clucking in the toolshed, oysters in the pond... I gazed at the massed ranks of plump stalks and broad caps. Where had they come from? Were they by-blooms of restaurant jetsam, typhooned here to burgeon in my greenhouse soil? Were they spores from the Perigord, franchised by the wind to make nonsense of EC controls? Whatever their provenance, you did not have to be a Sainsbury's mycologist to identify some twenty quidsworth of sizzling nutriment.

Always provided - you guessed? - that they were edible. I ran inside again, we had a book somewhere. An hour later, I knew

where. I opened *Mushrooms, Toadstools and Fungi* by Alan Major. Its first line is "There are some 200,000 species of fungus in the world".

It is four hours later, now: almost lunchtime - or would be, if there were not 200,000 species of fungus in the world. I am standing in the middle of my crop, which, two minutes ago, I finally decided were Fairy Ring Champignons, "much relished by connoisseurs". Joy! Or, rather, joy? For, one minute ago, I turned to commence garnering, I found the page to find a picture of the False Champignon, "thus known because it sometimes appears among edible Fairy Ring Champignons. Poisonous."

And, at a guess, not much relished by connoisseurs. So what do I do now, Jonathan? I mean, friendship of the earth is all very well, but it has to cut both ways,



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THE SOVIET LEVIATHAN

Constitutions are only exceptionally the product of tranquil times, and some of those that have proved most enduring only emerged from the intellectual ferment of revolution. It is not sufficient to cite haste and juridical inaccuracy as objections to Mr Gorbachov's proposed augmentation of his powers by the creation of a new presidential office. He might reply, not unreasonably, that the perils of civil war and anarchy now render imperative the overturning of the Constitution which he himself introduced less than two years ago.

Few doubt that the legendary resilience of the Soviet body politic is already ebbing fast. It is not responding even to its doctor's most strenuous treatments: the amputation of the central European colonies and perhaps the non-Slavic republics too; the grafting of a skin-deep "planned market economy" on to a collectivist system; and the revival of the failing heart of socialism with the ultimately lethal drug of democracy.

Mr Gorbachov evidently believes that a more drastic solution is now required. The new president would not merely exercise enormous influence over the affairs of state under normal conditions, he would also enjoy the supreme sovereign power: the right to decide when an exceptional situation had arisen. The power to impose a state of emergency, for the duration of which the other constitutional checks and balances would be suspended, is the ultimate sanction. Let nobody suppose that Mikhail Sergeyevich would hesitate to use it.

The auguries are not favourable. Presidential emergency powers were decisive in the collapse of the Weimar Republic, during which the issue was exhaustively debated. They were invoked in response to the ungovernable state of the Reich created by the rise of the anti-constitutional Nazi and communist parties; in practice the path to Hitler's totalitarian dictatorship was only smoothed by Hindenburg's democratic one.

A better precedent was provided by de Gaulle. The Fifth Republic has survived the powerful elective presidency, coexisting with a parliamentary system, which was bequeathed

by the General and intended to guard against the threat of a military coup, which was acute during the Algerian crisis.

In political maturity, however, the peoples of France and the Soviet Union are not remotely comparable. The French may be trusted to elect a head of state who will not abuse his emergency powers: the only authority to which the Soviet nations have been exposed for three generations has been one whose legitimization rested on fear. The opportunities for demagoguery and deception are immense. After Hitler, the West Germans did not trust themselves with the leviathan of potential elective dictatorship: they gave themselves a non-executive, indirectly elected president with no emergency powers. After Stalin, after an almost unbroken line of despotic rulers, would the Russians be well advised to ignore the German example?

Mr Gorbachov will no doubt have his way. He has earned his reputation as a man of extraordinary qualities. His preference for the radical, elegant and if necessary brutal solution to every problem recalls the youthful Alexander's attitude to the Gordian Knot. This force of character has enabled him to persuade the Communist Party to begin its abdication from power without waiting to be overtaken by events. If he is dragged down during the party's almost inevitable fall, many Russians who have always held the communist cause in contempt will spare him a tear of gratitude. If he survives in office under another banner, there will be many uses for his political genius in the service of his country.

But if Mr Gorbachov persists in his aggrandizement of personal authority, for purposes which remain unclear to those whose sacrifices he demands almost daily, he may forfeit the faith in his selfless devotion to reform, the foundation of his power. As the protests against his proposals on the streets of Moscow last weekend indicated, Mikhail Gorbachov risks exchanging the role of Lord Protector for that of Great Dictator. That would be a melancholy progression.

NICARAGUA'S SECOND CHANCE

The most impressive aspect of the Nicaraguan elections, handsomely won by Doña Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, was the seriousness with which Nicaraguans voters took their first chance to vote in freedom since 1932. Their choice was not made easier either by the vagueness of both sides' political platforms or by the bitter polarization of the country after nearly 11 years of Sandinista rule and civil war.

President Daniel Ortega, the defeated candidate, far outshone his rival in charisma, in political experience and in campaign tactics. He dominated television, and could draw on the formidable resources of the Sandinistas' state and party machinery. Last-minute spending sprees included cash repairs to potholed streets, free pencils for schoolchildren and tax exemptions for thousands of poor workers. He made the most of Washington's financial support for the United National Opposition, presenting the Sandinistas as the guarantors of Nicaraguan independence and the opposition as the lackeys of American imperialism.

Doña Violeta, by contrast, was a lack-lustre orator whose campaign, physically slowed by injury, was further hampered by factional quarrels. She belongs to no political party and she was fighting precedent: no woman had ever been elected president of a Latin American country. Her assets were three: her status as the widow of a national hero, a newspaper publisher assassinated in 1978 by henchmen of the dictator Anastasio Somoza; the Sandinistas' miserable economic record; and the prospect that, as one whose own family had been riven by the civil war, she would bring reconciliation at home and abroad.

The Sandinistas have said in the past that they could "give up the government but not power". President Ortega, having invited international observers to witness what he clearly expected to be a triumph legitimizing Sandinista rule, yesterday promised to respect

the result. But the Sandinistas remain the largest single party; and the interior minister, Señor Tomás Borge-Martínez, has suggested that the "revolutionary" loyalties of Nicaragua's huge army and militias would make it impossible for UNO to govern.

The Sandinistas' economic legacy — the result of printing money to finance military spending, five years of a US trade embargo and serious mismanagement of the civilian economy — was central to their defeat. The incomes of people already desperately poor under the Somoza dictatorship have collapsed since 1979, shortages are endemic and malnutrition widespread.

Revising the economy will be a herculean task, but the basis may ironically have been laid by last year's austerity programme, which brought inflation down from 34,000 per cent to 1,700 per cent and cut 35,000 jobs from the state bureaucracy. The end of the US embargo, promised yesterday by President Bush, will help: the US market accounted for 75 per cent of Nicaragua's trade before 1985.

The period before president-elect Chamorro's inauguration on April 24 will be delicate. The massive popular support for change should, however, reinforce her authority as she attempts to forge a united government from within the UNO coalition. The Sandinistas may prove to have overestimated their support in the Armed Forces, many of them unwilling conscripts, just as they did that among Nicaragua's peasants and urban poor.

In 1979, the overthrow of the Somoza dynasty made Nicaragua a beacon of freedom among the dictatorships of Latin America. That early promise was dissipated in an armed conflict and ideological rigidities while the rest of Latin America followed its own, non-revolutionary route to democracy. Today Nicaragua has a second chance to alter the course of its violent history.

STRICTLY A JAPANESE AFFAIR

One investment rule has usually held good in recent years. The Tokyo stock market has always recovered faster than other world markets from any setback and has risen further when markets generally were rising. This makes the steep falls of the past few days at a time when other markets are generally stable still more striking. Tokyo seems to have developed a mind — and worries — of its own. Presumably this is not quite what Japanese politicians have in mind when they speak of Japan asserting its role in world affairs, but it is none the less instructive to see Wall Street and Tokyo ignoring each other.

The reasons for the fall have as much to do with politics as with economics. A further rise in Japanese interest rates has long been expected following the increases elsewhere and as a result of emerging worries about inflation. Growth in the money supply is higher than is desirable at 11 per cent, and prices continue to soar and the Shinto, or spring wage round, is expected to bring new pressures on costs.

A rise of perhaps three quarters of a percentage point, taking the Official Discount Rate to 5 per cent, was confidently predicted once the election was out of the way, but so far this has failed to occur. Last week the Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Japan began openly to squabble — an unusual spectacle in Japan — with the Ministry of Finance arguing that it would be better to wait and see the effect of previous increases before raising interest rates again. An immediate reason to delay is the need to wait for the formal appointment of a finance minister in the new Government, but any interest rate rise may now be delayed well beyond that.

Whatever the outcome of the heavyweight wrestling between the Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Japan, markets are coming to the conclusion that the result of the election has by

no means settled the country's political uncertainties. Although the incumbent Liberal Democratic Party won the contest convincingly, it is so faction-ridden that speculation of a political realignment continues. Meanwhile the absence of a majority in the Upper House reduces the Government's scope for manoeuvre, introducing a further note of uncertainty.

In this atmosphere equities have taken their cue from bonds which have fallen sharply in price since the new year. The volatility of market movements, as on Wall Street, has been exacerbated by programme trading generated by computerized investment models, leading to renewed calls for restrictions on such operations.

Viewed from New York or London it is tempting to see the fall as a long-needed correction in stock prices which have become highly inflated. Companies quoted in Tokyo are often valued at two or three times the market capitalization of similar companies elsewhere. Undoubtedly the dynamism of the Japanese economy rates a premium, but not one as big as that. Japanese investors themselves, however, do not appear to see things in this light, and their views are likely to maintain the price of Japanese stocks at well above those of stocks elsewhere until something causes them to change their mind.

From the point of view of other major markets, the gyrations in Tokyo seem to be strictly a Japanese affair. A rise in Japanese interest rates is already discounted and is unlikely to prompt matching action elsewhere. Despite inflationary worries the underlying performance of the Japanese economy remains strong with inflation currently 2.6 per cent and growth this year expected to be about 4½ per cent. For the most part Japan's problems are the problems of economic success.

Clash of wills on student loans

From the Academic Registrar of the City University

Sir, Students benefit from the public purse; in fairness, as graduates they should pay something back. The vice-chancellors agree, so why the damaging impasse with the Government on student loans?

The root of the difficulty is that the Government seeks to chase the quarry of fairness right down to the level of the individual student, who is, as an individual, to take a loan and pay it back. It is just at this level that public administration is incapable of fairness. Look at social security, a byzantine system, creating new and complex unfairnesses.

Much better to recover a contribution to general public funds from graduates as a class, by whatever means is administratively cheapest and has fewest drawbacks in terms of deterring new students.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN SEVILLE,
Academic Registrar,
City University,
Northampton Square, EC1,
February 22.

From Sir Bryan Thwaites
Sir, Watchers of the university scene are becoming increasingly worried by what appear to be somewhat acerbic relations between universities and the DES. Two recent manifestations are particularly disturbing.

It was only last summer that Sir John Kingman, the most distinguished Vice-Chancellor of Bristol, himself a former chairman of the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC), said publicly that the question is "whether we can trust the Government" in the context of funding (report, July 28, 1989, earlier editions).

Now (February 13), in the different context of student grants, we read a letter from the Vice-Chancellor of Leeds, himself a former chairman of the University Grants Committee (UGC), writing in his capacity as chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals (CVC) in such a way as to draw forth an immediate counter by the Secretary of State for Education and Science (February 14).

Government policies are not necessarily always congenial to universities, and vice versa. But it must be in the interest of both sides to work more effectively together than these, and other, examples suggest is the case at present.

Yours faithfully,
BRYAN THWAITES,
Miltonborne,
Winchester, Hampshire.

From Miss M. K. Curtis
Sir, Philip Goodhart's article, "A pledge full of promise" (February 21), takes me back 70 years. My mother, a war widow of very limited means, used her savings to train a daughter as a university graduate teacher on condition she repaid the cost over a four-year period.

This arrangement made possible the same education for the second daughter, who in turn provided the wherewithal for the third daughter. The habit thus established resulted in a family of four, all graduates of the same university.

The youngest, not your writer, is now 71 years old.

Yours faithfully,
M. K. CURTIS,
25 Church Road,
Hampton, Evesham,
Hereford and Worcester,
February 22.

Radio franchises

From Mrs Jocelyn Hay

Sir, There has been much criticism of the bread-and-butter nature of the quality threshold to be met before television franchises are sold to the highest bidder, but virtually no reporting of the fact that radio franchises are to be auctioned without any quality hurdle at all.

The Broadcasting Bill proposes that up to 300 new commercial radio stations should be set up in Britain. Despite previous assurances, however, the Bill contains little that can prevent all three new national stations becoming non-stop pop stations if that is the most profitable way to go.

Is this how the Government proposes to widen choice for listeners or to add to the quality of life in Britain?

Yours faithfully,
JOCELYN HAY (Chairman,
The Voice of the Listener (Society)),
101 King's Drive,
Gravesend, Kent,
February 26.

Blasphemy at law

From his Honour A. King-Hamilton, QC

Sir, In his article, "Why religions should fight their own fight" (February 19), Professor Plant writes: "In the Gay News trial, the judge... stated that blasphemous libel applies only to the Christian religion and sacred subjects." This is not what I said.

At the outset of the trial defence counsel submitted that I had no jurisdiction to try the case because we had become a multi-religious society and there could not be a law of blasphemy which only protected one religion, i.e., Christianity.

Whilst accepting that we were a multi-religious society, I rejected the submission on the ground that

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Anomalies in the poll tax system

From Councillor Mrs Janet Todd

Sir, As the Conservative leader on a Labour-controlled council I am facing much criticism on the community charge. Oxford's community charge will be £472, practically the highest of the county districts; but the facts are plain to see from the available statistics.

Councils have gone over the top on expenditure for the coming year. Most of the worst offenders are Labour-controlled, or are "hung" councils where Labour are supported by the Democrats. Many Conservative district councils appear as high spenders simply because they have been saddled with high county precepts with which the county Conservatives disagree.

I believe that the principle of those who enjoy local government services paying for them in accordance with their means is perfectly fair, but the unexpected council spending has hit those in low-rated properties and caused the transitional arrangements to break down.

Unfortunately the most obvious victims of circumstances are the elderly, who have no salary coming in and are just above the income limit of savings and so will get no rebate. The rebate rules have been modelled on those governing housing benefit, which properly deals with a much more limited range of applicants and does not allow both husband and wife a savings threshold since there is only one rent involved. As both are now eligible to pay community charge the housing benefit model is inappropriate.

It is to be hoped that the secretary of state will not hesitate to "cap" extravagant authorities and that some adjustments can be made in the rebate scheme and the transitional arrangements. In that event the community charge will have a reasonable chance of gaining public acceptance, and the motives of those opposing it will be seen as an attempt to perpetuate an unfair and outmoded system.

Yours faithfully,
JANET TODD,
Foxton Lodge,
Foxton Close, Oxford,
February 25.

From Mrs J. Graham-Jones

Sir, Your report, "Parishioners wake up to the cowshed poll tax"

assessing clergy

From the Reverend Geoffrey Kirk

Sir, Your correspondents (February 20) would be less concerned about the introduction of "job appraisal techniques" in the Church of England if they experienced the reality.

In this diocese such assessments are undertaken in "episcopal areas" by an "episcopal team". A wide-ranging questionnaire is completed annually, and discussed with the allotted member of the "team" at a single meeting.

Since interviews last no more than an hour, since the policy is that no two interviews in succession should be conducted by the same person; since the diocesan turnover in suffragan bishops and archdeacons is considerably more rapid than the turnover in parish clergy, and since the chances are

(February 23), gives welcome publicity to the financial plight of villagers, not only in Essex but in many places in England and Wales, brought about by the withdrawal of income for parish and community councils previously derived from the business rate.

However, the final sentence in your report, "Local people must now pay for local services", is most unfortunate since it implies that they have not done so in the past. On the contrary, in the past, under the rating system, and in the future, under the community charge, rural dwellers will not only pay for their local services but also for significant elements in the district council charge for facilities such as sports centres which most country people cannot use. Distance and lack of public transport at the right times prevent such use.

Village activities centre on the village hall — where there is one. Both capital money to build or renovate halls and revenue cash to maintain them come not only from local authority finance, which funds 50 per cent capital costs only, but largely from local fund-raising efforts, which bear very heavily on small communities.

Town dwellers, on the other hand, pay only through rates or poll tax for their local leisure amenities; villagers pay three times over. Yours faithfully,
J. GRAHAM-JONES,
Hendre,
9 St Anthony's Way,
Haverfordwest, Dyfed,
February 23.

From Mr Geoffrey Abbott

Sir, My widowed mother moved into a home near us in April, 1989, and her house was put on the market for sale. She died in October, 1989, and as her house remains unsold, the executors, claiming a void on the house under the old rating system.

From April, 1990, her estate will be charged poll tax as though there are two people living in her house — a property tax after all.

A nice little bonus for the council! Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY ABBOTT,
Wald Farm,
Croxtan, Cambridgeshire,
February 22.

that the only other encounter with either bishop or archdeacon in the relevant period will probably have been over the telephone or over a bridge roll in a windswept church hall after a confirmation, it can confidently be concluded that little or no actual harm is done.

As a matter of fact, since the arrangement ensures that the average clergyman sees his "area bishop" for only an hour once every three years, and since it means that his encounters with the diocesan bishop will of necessity be purely accidental and episodic, your correspondents may even come to see it as positively beneficial.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY KIRK,
St Stephen's Vicarage,
Cressingham Road, SE13,
February 20.

and in most cases have a fair ability.

I believe, however, that the service has been totally underfunded and that what it really lacks is "middle management". There is a very wide gap between the solicitor who prepares and presents the case in court and the main junior support staff in the office.

As soon as this gap can be funded and filled I believe the complaints will disappear. Meanwhile, it is about time we all stopped knocking the service and worked together to achieve the independence for which we strive for years. Yours faithfully,
A. R. OSTRIN (Senior Partner),
Yaffie Jackson Ostrin
(Solicitors),
81 Dale Street, Liverpool 2,
February 21.

Soviet reshuffle

From Mr Nicolas Mynett

Sir, Last summer, in a German wine shop, I came across bottles that rather amused me at the time as they were sold as "Vodka Gorbachov". On returning there last week I found that they had been replaced with a brand called "Vodka Pushkin".

What does this mean? I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
NICOLAS MYNETT,
Temple House, Stowe,
Buckingham,
February 20.

with much greater force, in the well known passage:

In an increasingly plural society... it is necessary not only to respect the differing religious beliefs, feelings and practices of all, but also to protect them from scurrility, vilification, ridicule and contempt.

In other words, from blasphemy. Professor Plant asks the rhetorical question, "What are to be the criteria for religious groups to qualify?" (for protection from blasphemy). I venture to repeat the suggestion I made in a recent seminar on blasphemy, viz., "a universally recognised, accepted and prevalent religion".

Yours sincerely,
ALAN KING-HAMILTON,
Royal Air Force Club,
128 Piccadilly, W1,
February 20.

Summer signs in the wintertime

From Mr Michael Skellern

Sir, I have just returned from a walk in the countryside on a warm sunny February afternoon. For a winter's day the walk was particularly unusual. The temperature reached the low sixties and enabled me to walk in short-sleeves.

I encountered three species of butterfly, including the beautiful brimstone. I had to take evasive action against a rather irate bumble bee and blow cigar smoke to keep away the insects. All I lacked was the sound of the cuckoo and the flight of the swallow.

You would expect me to have been cheered by such a pleasant walk on so warm a day. Not so. Instead I felt a strange unease as though something was wrong. This first brimstone may well be an indicator of a more sinister "fire and brimstone" to come.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL SKELLERN,
White Coppice, 1 Dobbin Close,
Crowpeth Bishop,
Nottinghamshire,
February 23.

From Mrs Susie Maske

Sir, Yesterday (February 22) I

picked nearly a pound of ripe and

tasty "Gardener's Delight" tomatoes

from my unheated greenhouse.

These tomatoes had apparently

thrived on total neglect throughout

the winter.

Yours faithfully,
SUSIE MASKEW,
Garden Cottage, 48 Grange Road,
Lewes, East Sussex,
February 23.

From Mrs Heather Beagley

Sir, The Army (letter, February

23) is properly dressed. The tree

outside my window is, like the hat

of the soldier in combat gear,

decorated with green leaves.

Yours faithfully,
HEATHER BEAGLEY,
3 Sheen Common Drive,
Richmond, Surrey,
February 23.

Spotted frogs

From Mrs H. G. Boyce

Sir, Further to Captain Rutherford's

letter (February 22), I would

like to reassure anyone else who

also heard the alarming news

about the depletion of the frog

population that we in the Special

Needs Department of Sydenham

Girls' School are also preserving

the species.

We have 96 tadpoles about to

become less simple to count once

they have emerged from their

apocrypha state. They are lovingly

poked daily and will ultimately be

released into a secret pond at the

back of the school.

This is the third year that we

have bred a particular type of frog

in south London that eats bits of

packed lunch.

Yours sincerely,
HARRIETTE BOYCE,
150 Woodwarde Road,
Dulwich, SE22,
February 22.

Unlikely skirl

From Mr Angus Stewart

Sir, It is quite in keeping that

Signor Delladio (Mr Pincus's letter

of February 15) should skirl his

pipes in the hills above Trento,

formerly part of the Austrian

province of Tyrol. A time from act

3, scene 2, of Rossini's *William*

Tell would be particularly appo-

sitive.

This melody was carried to the

Crimea in 1855 by the band of

General Lamarmora's gallant

Piedmontese expeditionary force.

There it was arranged for the pipes

by Field Major John MacLeod, of

the 93rd Highlanders, as a retreat

in 3/4 time. It was known as "The

Green Hills of Tyrol". More than

a century later it again became

popular, this time as "A Scottish

Soldier", sung by Andy Stewart.

There was another early Scot-

tish connection. In Hapsburg-

ruled Milan it had been politic to

give *William Tell* a Highland

rather than an Alpine setting, with

Englishmen, not Austrians, as the

villains of the piece, and to present

it under the title of *Guiglielmo*

Wallace.

Yours faithfully,
ANGUS STEWART,
8 Ann Street, Edinburgh 4,
February 17.

From Mr R. R. Hodgson

Sir, A gentleman in full regalia

practises the bagpipes on a regular

basis, 100 yards from my office

window in the centre of Bradford.

FASHION

Looks great outdoors

One name leads the field — and everywhere else — in clothes for an active life.

Amanda Atha reports

Are you a Patagonia? Try this simple quiz. You are sitting in a hut half-way up Mount Everest. There is a blizzard howling outside and weather reports indicate you may be trapped for a week. There is a stove, 10 bunks, 12 people of indeterminate sex and you. Do you:

- Climb into your bunk and fall asleep — it's been a long, hard day?
- Head, Scott-like, for the wide open spaces?
- Whip out your Pentax and run off a couple of rolls of film of your boyfriend lying on his bunk wearing his super-shelled Capilene jacket, Hydrofil socks, brush-stroke T-shirt and jeans in the hope of having a photograph chosen for the next Patagonia catalogue?

If you selected the last option, congratulations — the kingdom of Patagonia is yours. If not, read on.

Patagonia provides outdoor clothing for skiers, yachtsmen and mountaineers. Among its products is a washable, fleecy material called Synchronia, widely copied but still regarded as the best fleece for warmth and dryness in difficult conditions.

Patagonia has won a cult following in the United States, Canada, and wherever outdoor types are gathered together. It has succeeded because the clothes not only look good, but actually work.

At the heart of the cult is the company's catalogue, available from Patagonia stockists. The clothes featured — storm jackets, underclothing, outer

"shells", fleece cardigans and fishing gear — do not alter much from year to year, give or take a new line in pants with an extra-wide crotch or an improvement in a garment's breathing qualities. (Who cares about fashion when these people test-wash

their pet fabric "in a yak watering bucket with Chinese soap so strong it faded the freckles on our hands and mangled our sweatpants"?)

The photographs, however, are tiny masterpieces. They are chosen from hundreds sent to the company by people in "Patagonian" situations. Here is a picture of the company's founder standing silent upon a peak in Aconcagua, Argentina, for example; and here, mountaineer Ad van der Horst "in a climber's hut in Spain".

The copy is a bit special, too: "We've often said about our Baggies: 'Put 'em on in May, take 'em off in September.' Baggies wearers take these words to heart... Baggies have full-cut legs for unrestricted motion, an elasticized mesh inner brief and two generous on-seam pockets with 'superdriers' — triangles of nylon mesh that allow water and sand to drain out when the shorts are worn for swimming and fishing..."

The company emanates from California, and is the brainchild of Yvon Chouinard, a French-Canadian mountaineer who found he could not buy the equipment he wanted for his sport, so began making his own in his parents' backyard.

That was 33 years ago. Since then Chouinard's efforts have led to a multinational company with a \$90 million (£53 million) turnover, and "cable-less offices to encourage open communication, on-site

day care, a subsidized lunch programme (some of the greatest ideas are seasoned by good food), a preference for staff meetings about endangered grizzly bears over the hopelessly astute "professional seminar".

When I tried to talk to Chouinard last week, an agitated Patagonia representative told me he was "somewhere in South America on a fishing and testing trip and out of communication". When would he be back? Well, possibly the weekend, because

he was due to go to an international ski trade fair in Munich on Thursday, but with Chouinard you never know. That is part of the Patagonia philosophy — set off into the blue and return when the spirit moves you.

Luckily, it moved him a few days later and I caught him on the telephone in Canada. The question of his business philosophy was, he said, "a tough one", but his basic reason for still being in business was to "maximize profit to give the maximum to the

environment". For several years Patagonia has given 10 per cent of its US and Canadian pretax profits to environmental organizations, and is planning to do the same "officially" in Europe. "It has become fashionable now and lots of companies are doing it as a marketing ploy," Chouinard says.

"I think it is a good idea. I don't think it will go away — once people get into the habit of digging into their pockets, they'll go right on."

● Liz Smith is on holiday



Far left: Electric blue storm jacket with mesh lining, £189.95; check cotton shirt, £49.95; red Synchronia sweater (around waist), £79.95, all by Patagonia. Classic Levi 501 jeans, £39, The Gap, 208 Regent Street, W1 and branches. Tan nubuck rucksack, £189, Timberland, 72 New Bond Street, W1; Selfridges, W1; Harrods, SW1. Blue nylon belt bag, £29.95, Invicta, Mountain Air, see below; Centresport, 57-59 Newbridge, Leeds; Carters, 99 Caversham Road, Reading; Captains Cabin, 1 Palace Street, Canterbury; Blues, 1 Wemyss Place, Edinburgh.

Left: He wears blue stretch Synchronia all-in-one (top tied around waist), £299.95; cream Capilene T-shirt, £29.95; lightweight windbreaker (around waist), £24.95; stone sweatshirt, £29.95, all by Patagonia. Wool hat, £29.95, Activ, 557 Battersea Park Road, SW11. She wears bright yellow Synchronia sweater, £79.95; beige twill baggy shorts, £29.95, both by Patagonia. Boots, £100, Timberland, as above.

Below: Grey mesh fishing vest, £109.95; canvas shirt, £29.95; grey T-shirt, £18.50; khaki trousers, £29.95, all by Patagonia. Fishing bag, £29, Leeds Camera Centre, 16 Brunswick Centre, WC1.

All clothes by Patagonia, available from Mountain Air, 907-909 Fulham Road, SW6; 7 Hill Street, Richmond, Surrey; 61 Hampstead High Street, NW5; Performance Clothing, The Barracks, Hadham Road, Bishops Cleeve, Shropshire; The Mountain Trading Co, 5 Welshback, Bristol; The Fellman, 2 Victoria Street, Windermere; Rock & Run, 3-4 Chesapeake, Ambleside.

Make-up by Charlie Duffy, Hair by Ayo for Dobson and Davison, W8 using Joico products.

Photographs by CLIVE ARROWSMITH

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Harrods

Sounds in the bag

Invicta is Italy's answer to Patagonia. "Invicta does not manufacture simple containers, but products conceived for the most extreme needs of travelling and sport," it claims. The Invicta Jollino is a backpack for your personal stereo, with lots of pockets for tapes, spare heads and other bits. It costs £24.99 from Mountain Air, 907-909 Fulham Road, SW6; Captains Cabin, 1 Palace Street, Canterbury; Nick Eastcourt, 53 Stamford New Road, Altringham; Carters, 99 Caversham Road, Reading; Blues, 1 Wemyss Place, Edinburgh.



Have music, will travel: the Invicta Jollino for the stereo

Flying fur on the slopes again

Sharon Campbell, buyer for Snow & Rock, a chain of ski shops which is consistently on the ball with snow fashion, comments on what's coming up next season: "It is boring really. The only distinctly new thing is fleece... fleece is one of the strongest influences in ski fashion this year. Degre [the company of the skier and mountaineer, Patrick Vallencant, who died last year in a mountain accident] has whole pieces which zip in and out — interactive layering, it's called. There are strong colours about, greens, purples... orange, I'm sorry to say, is showing its little face, though mostly in trimmings. And then of course there is the wonderful new Solomon ski, which they've been developing for the last few years. It's bright orange and black. Fashion has been influenced by the European market which, because European resorts have had such a bad season, is designing clothes which are made for the street as well as for skiing.

"Other materials: leather, the natural 'green' look (green as in conservation), fake fur, and quite a lot of real fur trimmings. In France it doesn't seem to bother them, and the Scandinavians say: 'The animals are specially bred for their fur and they are not endangered species', and if you question them further they say 'Well, do you eat meat?'"

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INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Returns only
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE
LONDON

★ **ANYTHING GOES**: Elaine Paige getting a kick out of Cole Porter's hit musical: stopgap romance, intrigue and "You're the Top". Prince Edward Theatre, Old Compton St. W1 (01-734 8851). Tube: Leicester Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30-9.45pm. Mats Thurs and Sat 2.30-4.45pm, £9-22. (D)

★ **BUDDY**: Musical play on the life of the great, late Buddy Holly: catches the sound and spirit of those far off days. Victoria Palace Theatre, Victoria St. SW1 (01-834 1317). Tube: Victoria. Mon-Thurs 8pm, Fri, Sat 8.30pm. Mats Thurs and Sat 5.30pm, £7-15.50. Fri mat half price.

★ **BUS STOP**: Jerry Hall plays Cheryl, the nightclub singer, waiting for the bus at a Kansas diner with Sean Connery as Doc Decker and David Heston as Dr. Gerald Lyman. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave. W1 (01-437 3888). Tube: Piccadilly. Opens tonight 7.30pm. Then Mon-Thurs 8.10pm, Fri and Sat 8.45-10.45pm, mats Fri and Sat 6pm, £5-16.

★ **JACKETS**: In Edward Bond's powerful, moving, angry play about society's crooked fabric, set in a riot-torn European city not unlike Leicester, where the play was premiered. Bush Theatre, Shepherd's Bush Green, W12 (01-743 3388). Tube: Shepherd's Bush. Previews from tonight 8pm. Opens Fri 7pm. Then Tues-Sun 8pm, £5.

★ **THE MOUNTAIN STANDING**: New translation of Camus's 1944 play *Le Malentendu*, using the story of a son who returns home unrecognized to raise issues of responsibility, the authentic life and other timeless concerns. Gate Theatre, Prince Albert Public House, Fenchurch Rd, W11 (01-229 0700). Tube: Morning Hill. Previews tonight and tomorrow 7.30pm. Opens Thurs, 7.30pm, £5.

★ **MOSCOW SHADOWS**: Barbara Lott and Josephine Tewson as two Moscow widows trading on the edge of the law, caught up in a madcap comedy. New End Theatre, 27 New End, NW3 (01-744 0022). Tube: Hampstead. Previews tonight and tomorrow, 8pm. Opens Thurs, 7.30pm. Then Tues-Thurs 8pm, Fri and Sat 8.30pm. Mats Sat 2.30pm, £5-25.50. (D)

★ **CANTERBURY**: ★ *Hindle Wakes*: Joanna Heywood and Frederick Pyne in touring production of the 1912 serious comedy that dared to suggest that women should have as free a love-life as men. Minerva Theatre, The Friars (0227 787248). Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mat Sat 2.30pm, £5-25.50. (D)

TOP 10 UK SINGLES

- (1) Dub Be Good to Me... Beats International, *Gal*
- (2) Nothing Compares 2 U... Sinéad O'Connor, *Easy*
- (3) How Am I Supposed to Live Without You... Michael Bolton, *CBS*
- (4) Get Up... Technobunny, *Sweeney*
- (5) I Don't Know Anybody Else... Black Box, *De Construction*
- (6) Enjoy the Silence... Depeche Mode, *Mute*
- (7) The Brits 1990... Various, *RCA*
- (8) Elephant Stone... Stone Roses, *Silverstone*
- (9) Infinity... Chris Rea, *Capitol*
- (10) Downtown Train... Rod Stewart, *Warner Brothers*

TOP 10 UK ALBUMS

- (1) ... But Seriously... Phil Collins, *Virgin*
- (2) Affection... Lisa Stansfield, *Arista*
- (3) Pump Up the Jam... Technotronic, *Sweeney*
- (4) Journeyman... Eric Clapton, *Reprise*
- (5) The Road to Hell... Chris Rea, *East West*
- (6) The Best of Rod Stewart... Rod Stewart, *Warner Brothers*
- (7) Heart of Stone... Cher, *Geffen*
- (8) Foreign Affair... The Turner, *Capitol*
- (9) The Raw and the Cooked... Fine Young Cannibals, *London*
- (10) Women in Uniform... Iron Maiden, *EMI*

Compiled by Gallup for Music Weekly/BBC/EMI

Mysterious Whydunnit

From the past: Jane Nash and Claude Clouse in *Bringing Down the Sun*

When asked to describe his new play, *Bringing Down the Sun*, opening tomorrow at the Dukes Theatre, Moor Lane, Lancaster, Chris Hawes summed up his feelings about its many layers by calling it a Whydunnit. Why was the parson of a 17th-century Lancashire village murdered? And why will the 20th-century headmistress of the village school also be murdered? What concerns did these two characters share and who was opposed to them? Hilary, the headmistress, played by Pauline Jefferson, remains on-stage throughout the performance, while characters from the past play scenes with characters of today in a manner that explores as Hawes puts it, "the ground between history and folklore". This will be Hawes's fourth play to be produced by Ian Forrester. *The Play of Janet*, also set in the 17th century, told the story of a servant girl caught up in the Civil War, and won the *Manchester Evening News* theatre award for 1985. Two years later, *Bringing Down the Sun* was produced at Birmingham Repertory Theatre and last year Forrester directed his adaptation of *Wind in the Willows* as an opera, with music by John Gutteridge. *Bringing Down the Sun* opens tomorrow at the Dukes Theatre, Moor Lane, Lancaster (0524 66645), 7.30pm, £5.

Jeremy Kingston

by Herbert Ross (117 mins).
Odeon Haymarket (01-836 7897).
Progs 12.05, 2.55, 5.40, 8.25.
Odeon Leicester (01-832 6644).
Progs 12.05, 2.55, 5.40, 8.25.
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★ **YSAIE QUARTET**: This French ensemble plays Vincent's Quartet Op. 22, following it with Beethoven's rather more substantial Quartet Op. 59 No. 2. Rotherham Hall, 20, Rotherham Rd, Rotherham, S61 1JH. 7.30pm, £5-15. (D)

★ **FROM TRONDHEIM**: Blaise Fiskum conducts the Trondheim Soloists in Björnstén's *Serenade*. Britten's *Serenade* and Schubert's *Quintet* are heard from the Gaudier Ensemble, as is an arrangement of Richard Strauss's *Die Frau ohne Schatten*. Chancery Lane, London WC2 (01-242 1222), 6.30pm, £5.

★ **MAGICAL LOVE**: The Guildhall Chamber Orchestra is conducted by Robert Ziegler in *Die Frau ohne Schatten*. Two Suites for Small Orchestra by Stravinsky and, with Simon Harlam as soloist, Richard Rodney Bennett's *Saxophone Concerto*. Barbican Centre, Silk St, London EC2 (01-638 8891), 7.30pm, free.

★ **ENCHANTED LAKE**: The LPO is conducted by Valery Gergiev in *Lieders* by Schubert, *Die Frau ohne Schatten* by Richard Strauss, and *Die Frau ohne Schatten* by Richard Strauss. Chancery Lane, London WC2 (01-242 1222), 6.30pm, £5.

★ **FANTASTIC SYMPHONY**: Dariusz Kaczkowski conducts the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5*. Chancery Lane, London WC2 (01-242 1222), 6.30pm, £5.

★ **THE MERRY WIDOW**: Opera 80s new travelling production by William Judd is conducted by Stephen Barlow with Heather Lorrimer in the title role.

CONCERTS

LUNCHTIME

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GALLERIES

LANDSCAPES FROM A HIGH

ATTITUDE: Landscapes from a high vantage point. Gallery, 10, St. James's Park, London SW1 (01-838 4141), daily noon-7.30pm, free, until April 1.

SIR WILLIAM ROBERTSON (1872-1945)

Assorted works by an artist who was Principal of the Royal College of Art. Max Rutherford, 180 New Bond St, London W1 (01-629 4189), free, until March 16.

VIRGINIA POWELL: Lithographs and

etchings of domestic subjects in an atmospheric style. Judd Street Gallery, 99 Judd St, London WC1 (01-387 3154), Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, free, until March 10.

JUDITH SWIFT: Paintings, drawings and

etchings showing how the landscape artist reconsidered the same motifs throughout his career. The Minerva, 74 High St, Colchester CO1 1JH. 10.30am-5.30pm, Sun noon-4pm, free, until April 1.

ROGER FRY (1866-1934): Woodcuts,

lithographs and drawings by the painter and critic who introduced French post-impressionism to Britain.

To celebrate Shrove Tuesday, or

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Bloomsbury Workshop, 12 Galen Place, London WC1 (01-405 1622), Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, free, until March 9.

★ **CRANIE HORSEFLY**: Large works on paper by one of the more challenging photographers around. Fifth Street Gallery, 60 Fifth St, London W1 (01-494 1550). Tues-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 11am-4pm, free, until March 17.

★ **ELLENTHAM DREAM DAY**: Chicago-based guitarist playing a ragged, but spectacularly impressive second album, *Beet*. A very rough, heavy-duty, garage-band sound applied to material which has clearly been influenced by Neil Young. Falcon, 234 Royal College St, London NW1 (01-485 3834), 8pm, £3.

★ **THE CRAMPS**: High-tech psychobilly warriors led by the deranged duo of Lux Interior and Poison Ivy. Rorschach, Bridon Avenue, 211 Stockwell Rd, London SW9 (01-325 1022), 7pm, £2, for two nights.

★ **TANITA TKRAM**: The Sweet Keeper is not always at her most comfortable in the relatively predictable conditions of the stage environment. The first of these two concerts is televised live on tonight's edition of the new live rock show *Rock Steady* (C4, 10.30pm).

★ **OFF ABBEY ROAD**: Mike Westbrook leads his band through cerebral re-workings of Beatles classics. Vocals from Kate Westbrook and Phil Milton. Glass Cinema, Portobello Rd, London W11 (01-792 2020), 8pm, £3.50.

★ **DANISH RADIO BIG BAND**: Heard on the recently-released Miles LP, *Aur*, the group takes a more conventional approach in concert, some of the most solid charts supplied by the late Thad Jones. Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Firth St, London W1 (01-439 0747), 9.30pm, £10 (members £7).

★ **RAY GELATO**: A whiff of Louis Jordan from the saxophone's 'Jumpy' Jive band. Bull's Head, 373 Lonsdale Rd, London SW13 (01-876 5241), 8.30pm, £4.

★ **LA BAYADERE**: Natalie Makarov's production for the Royal Ballet opens a short tour. Birmingham Hippodrome (021 622 7488), 7.30pm, mat 2.30pm, £5.50-22.2.

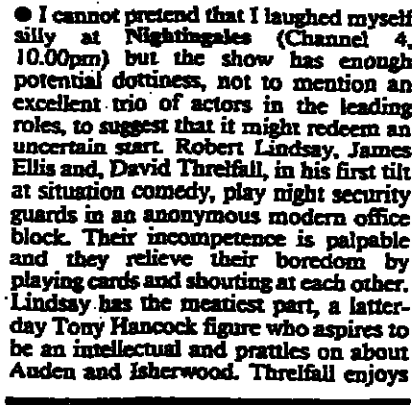
★ **LIAMSON AMOURSEUS**: Ronald

TELEVISION & RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Gillian Maxey

Song of
the night
watch

Peter Waymark



Robert Lindsay: as a latter-day Tony Hancock figure (Channel 4, 10.00pm)

I cannot pretend that I laughed myself silly at *Nightwatch* (Channel 4, 10.00pm) but the show has enough potential to do so. It is a comedy of the excellent sort, to suggest that it might be an excellent start. Robert Lindsay, James Ellis and David Threlfall, in his first role at situation comedy, play night security guards in an anonymous modern office block. Their incompetence is palpable and they relieve their boredom by playing cards and shouting at each other. Lindsay has the meanest part, a latter-day Tony Hancock figure who aspires to be an intellectual and prattles on about Auden and Isherwood. Threlfall enjoys

himself as a long-haired Northern thickie with a volatile temper and Ellis, in splendid white whiskers, is (reluctantly) the straight man. The interplay between the three - noisy, aggressive and lewd - is supplemented by the arrival of a moonlighting medical student who is liable to turn himself into a werewolf. As in *A Kind of Living*, his ITV series, with Richard Griffiths and Frances de la Tour, the writer Paul Maitland demonstrates his willingness to depart from the comfortable assumptions of mainstream television comedy, although it is not quite clear what he is putting in their place. Which may be another way of saying that, at the moment, *Nightwatch* is a comedy without a situation. Meanwhile, Ellis's sign-off, in the style of Dixon of Dock Green, suggests that Maitland's interest in *Fifties* television extends further than the lead from East Coast.

Autism: A World Apart (Channel 4, 9.00pm) is a sympathetic look at a handicap which may be comparatively rare - perhaps affecting 80,000 people in Britain - but is a source of great distress to the families affected. Usually detected in children up to three years old, it shows itself in obsessive and self-absorbed behaviour and the inability to communicate with other people. This lucid, well-organized documentary focuses on three cases, of children between five and 17, stressing the damage to families of broken sleep, interrupted meals and the impossibility of taking holidays. Little is known about the causes of autism, or why four out of five victims are male, and at the moment there is no cure, or even the prospect of one. The best that can be offered is a bewildering array of therapies which may or may not work.

BBC 1

- 6.00 *Coffee*
- 6.30 *BBC Breakfast News* with Nicholas Witchell and Kirsty Wark. Includes regular news headlines, business reports, sports details, regional news, weather and travel information. Plus a review of the morning newspapers and a look at the day ahead.
- 9.00 *News and weather* followed by *Open Air* with David Berman. To contribute ring 011 814 0424
- 9.30 *Kilroy*. Robert Kilroy-Gilchrist chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject
- 10.00 *News and weather* followed by *Going for Gold* (r)
- 10.35 *Children's BBC*, presented by Simon Patten, begins *Playdays* introduced by Dave Benson. Includes *Robbie* narrated by Richard Briers (r) 10.55 *Five to Eleven*. Edited by Peter Finch
- 11.00 *News and weather* followed by *Open Air*
- 12.00 *News and weather* followed by *Daytime Live*. Magazine series 12.55 *Regional news and weather*
- 1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Philip Hayton. Weather
- 1.30 *Neighbours*. Brownwyn receives an unexpected visitor in the middle of the night. (Ceefax) 1.55 *News and weather* followed by *Open Air*
- 2.15 *Prime Pacific* (1985) starring Dermot Egan, Gordon Jackson and Susan Stephen. The story, based on fact, of the adventures of a British colonial officer based in the South Seas before the First World War. Directed by Woll Rilla
- 3.00 *Bodger and Badger* starring Andy Cunningham (r) 4.00 *Hockey* (r) 4.15 *Jackpot*. Sophie Aldred with Robert Llewellyn. A story about a boy who finds a magic lamp. (Ceefax) 4.30 *News and weather* followed by *Open Air*
- 5.00 *News and weather* followed by *Open Air*
- 5.30 *Neighbours* (r) (Ceefax)
- 6.00 *6 O'Clock News* with Peter Seaton and Anna Ford. Weather
- 6.30 *Regional News Magazine*
- 7.00 *Holiday 90*. In the first of a two-part holiday Anne Gregg reports from the Kerkira Islands off the coast of Tunisia while Eamonn Holmes goes sailing in the Mediterranean. The Swiss Alps and Lucy Pilkington takes up horse riding at Scotland's Glenelg Hotel, under the guidance of former Olympic champion Captain Mark Phillips
- 7.30 *EastEnders*. Arthur and Pete are anxious to find out what the two newcomers in the Square were and Hazel returns to see Rod, who has made up his mind what to do. (Ceefax)
- 8.00 *Porridge*. Final Stretch. In this final episode of the series Fletcher's protégé Lennie is free for parole, but Fletcher is worried that a last-minute grudge against a bug will jeopardize Lennie's chances (r) (Ceefax)
- 8.30 *A Question of Sport*. Team captains Ian Beaton and Ian Botham are joined by Lucinda Green, Chris O'Connor, Tony Alcock and Peter Reid. The questionmaster is David Coleman. (Ceefax)
- 9.00 *News and weather* with Martin Lewis. Regional news and weather
- 9.30 *A Sense of Gull*. In the last episode the consequences of Sally and Felix's affair takes their final toll as Richard's explosive attack on his best friend ends with Felix Anderson. (Ceefax) 10.00 *News and weather* with Martin Lewis. Regional news and weather
- 10.30 *Phil 90* with Barry Norman. Barry reviews *Born on the Fourth of July*, *The Fabulous Baker Boys*, *Glory and Deceit* and *Thru the Dark*
- 10.50 *The Black and White Mass*. The series is dominated by white people, whether in drama, comedy, sport, news or other fields. Black people working in broadcasting, among them Beverly Anderson, Trevor Phillips and Marc Wadsworth, raise questions as to whether this can reflect an accurate picture of black people
- 11.40 *Weather*

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 *TV-am* begins with *News* and *Good Morning Britain* presented by Geoff Clark and, from 7.00, by Mike Morris and Lorraine Kelly. With news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00. After 9.00, presented by Kathy Taylor, includes *Marcelle* (r) and *Smith*, editor of *Cosmopolitan*, and the recipe to make a perfect pancake
- 9.25 *The Pyramid Game*. Game show hosted by Steve Jones 9.55 *Thames News and weather*
- 10.00 *The Time... The Place...* John Stapien chairs a discussion on a topical subject
- 10.40 *This Morning*. Magazine series presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan. Today's editor includes items on new craft, family finance, and David Bellamy on hedgerows and hedges. With national and international news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.15 followed by national weather
- 12.10 *Read, Jane and Freddy*. For the young 12.30 *Home and Away*. Philip asks Steve to marry him while Lance is more interested in getting hold of an invitation to Morag's party
- 1.00 *News at One* with John Suchet. Weather 1.25 *Thames News*
- 1.30 *Snooker*. Tony Francis presents coverage of the fifth round of the Pearl Assurance British Open snooker tournament from the Assembly Rooms, Derby
- 3.25 *Thames News and weather* 3.30 *The Young Doctors*. Susan Richards is in a dilemma when her mysterious phone caller appears at the hospital, and the nature of Erica's illness is worse than anyone expected
- 4.00 *Pringle Rock* 4.15 *Bugs Bunny*. *Looney Tunes* 4.30 *T-Bag* and *Pearls of Wisdom* starring George (r) 4.40 *Count Duckula* (r)
- 5.10 *Blockbusters*. Bob Holness hosts another round of the general knowledge quiz for teenagers
- 5.40 *News and weather* 5.50 *Home and Away* (r)
- 6.25 *Thames News* followed by *Open Air*
- 6.50 *Thames Help* with details of volunteers needed for Lingfield Hospital School. Presented by Jackie Sprackley
- 7.00 *Examiner*. Karl Murrack makes another journey to Southampton to see the spiritualist, leaving Jack to cope with lambing on his own. Meanwhile, Chris Tate is taken back by what he hears about his father and stepmother. (Oracle)
- 7.30 *Thames Reports* includes an item on racial harassment in Southwark
- 8.00 *The Bill*. Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow. WPC Marshall goes undercover to investigate allegations of theft in a clothing factory, while a girl arrested at an acid house party causes considerable trouble for Marshall's colleagues at Sun Hill. (Oracle)
- 8.30 *After Henry*. Comedy series starring Prunella Scales, Janine Wood and John Sanderson. Clara buys herself a car and, soon afterwards, meets a boy whose hobby is car mechanics. Could this be the start of a perfect friendship?
- 9.00 *The Sweeney*. Down to You, Brother. When £150,000 goes missing, it's up to the Flying Squad's Jack Regan and his team. Starring John Thaw and Dennis Waterman (r)
- 10.00 *News at Ten* with Sandy Gall and Julia Somerville. Weather 10.30 *Thames News* followed by *Open Air*
- 10.35 *Snooker*. The Pearl Assurance British Open. The commentating team is John Pulman, Rex Williams, Mark Wildman and Jim Meadowcroft. Followed by *News* headlines
- 12.30 *Film*: Dr. Jekyll and Sister Hyde (1971) starring Ralph Bates and Martine Beswick. The young doctor Jekyll takes his drug potion and is transformed into a beautiful, but evil woman who lures prostitutes to their death. Directed by Roy Ward Baker
- 2.30 *News* headlines followed by *Open Air*
- 3.00 *Thames News* followed by *Open Air*
- 3.30 *Quiz*. Hosted by Rose King
- 4.00 *News* headlines followed by *Open Air*
- 4.30 *ITN Morning News* with Phil Roman. Ends at 6.00

BBC 2

- 7.10 *Open University*. Systems Behaviour - Interpretation. Ends at 7.35
- 8.00 *News 2.15 Westminster*
- 9.00 *News* 9.15 *Westminster*
- 9.25 *Daytime on Two*. German for beginners 9.40 *Life on sea* rocks 10.00 *Science for the young* 10.15 *Learning to read* 10.40 *Tackling problems* faced by Brunel 11.00 *Life in the 1950s* 11.15 *Courage* 11.25 *GCSE art* 11.40 *Science for the young* 11.55 *Electronics* 12.25 *Norwegian* 12.55 *Beginners' Italian* 1.30 *Pope John Street* 1.40 *The Rebecca Riots*
- 2.00 *News and weather* followed by a programme for the very young 2.15 *See Hear* (r) 2.40 *Arthur Negus* Enjoys. Berkeley Castle, Gloucestershire (r) 2.55 *The Travel Show* UK Mail Guides. Dogleap (r)
- 3.00 *News and weather* followed by *Westminster Live* 3.50 *News*, regional news and weather
- 4.00 *International Bowls*. The Embassy World Indoor championships
- 5.00 *Advice Shop*. A look at fast problems, particularly with regard to the elderly
- 5.30 *Gardeners' World* (r)
- 6.00 *Film*: To Trap a Spy (1985) starring Robert Vaughn and David McCallum. Agent Smoak comes up against the KGB's top syndicate. Directed by Don Medford
- 7.35 *Billie* (r) (r)
- 8.00 *Open Space*: Talking Drags. The director of Liverpool's Maryport group of drug addicts, centre, Alan Parry, tours Merseyside, which employs a policy of giving drug users controlled access to clean drugs and equipment
- 8.30 *Food and Drink* includes a report on the latest research on dieting
- 9.00 *Quantum Leap*: The Right Hand of God. Sam Beckett finds himself in 1974 as doctor Kim Cattrall
- 9.50 *Almost Grown*. The Best Years of My Life. Part two - the insecurities and anxieties of growing up
- 10.30 *News* headlines
- 11.15 *The Larkins* includes a report on the proliferation of crime reconstruction programmes on television 11.55 *Weather*
- 12.00 *Open Space*: Coventry: What Can I Do?
- 12.35 *International Bowls*. The Embassy World Indoor championships. Ends at 1.30

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 *The Channel Four Daily* 6.25 *Schools*
- 12.00 *The Parliament Programme* 12.30 *Business Daily*
- 1.00 *Sesame Street*
- 2.00 *Home Town*. Roy Hudd visits Glasgow and talks to some Glaswegians about the hardships of the 1930s and the politics of the people. (Oracle)
- 2.30 *The Senior Service*. News, information and advice for older viewers. (Oracle)
- 2.45 *Black Forest Clinic* (r)
- 3.30 *Murphy's Law* (r)
- 3.40 *The Open Whistley Show*. Oprah finds out what has happened to some of her past guests since they appeared on her show
- 4.30 *Countdown*
- 5.00 *The Love Ranger* (b/w)
- 5.30 *4th Dimension* (r)
- 6.00 *Gopher*. American comedy show
- 6.30 *The Comedy Show* (r)
- 7.00 *Channel 4 News* with Jon Snow and Zennaro Badawi
- 7.50 *Comment* followed by *Weather*
- 8.00 *Ordinary People*. This programme features Rita Behar, a cleaner and union organizer from Liverpool; Neaseen Rahman, an economics researcher specializing in low pay; and Ann de Graft-Johnson, an architect working in London for a feminist architectural collective - Moxon. (Oracle)
- 8.30 *Travelers* (r) created by Bernard Falk. (Oracle)
- 9.00 *Autism - A World Apart* (see Choice)
- 10.00 *Nightwatch* (see Choice)
- 10.30 *Rock, Steady*. The White Hail, Belfast, Tanta Tikaram in concert and, from the Town and Country Club, London, Johnny Clegg and Savuka. There is also film of Mark Knopfler of Dire Straits with Chris Atkins
- 11.30 *Grand Festival*. A television adaptation of last summer's week-long festival of South American music and dance at London's South Bank, featuring Mocade, Independencia de Paque Miguel, Danza Brazil and Celina Gonzales
- 1.00 *News* followed by *Open Air*
- 1.30 *Wallace and Gromit* (1987) starring John La Mesurier and Jack Watling. Two men paid visits to the apartment of Eric Lousa, a wealthy banker, on the night of his death, and each had a strong motive for murder. Directed by Alan Cooke. Ends at 2.10

SATELLITE

- SKY ONE
- 5.00am *International Business Report* 5.30 *European Business Channel* 6.00 *DJ* 6.30 *Panel Pot Pourri* 10.00 *The New Price is Right* 10.30 *The Young Doctors* 11.00 *Sky By Day* 12.00 *Another World* 1.00pm *As the World Turns* 2.00 *Living 2.30 A Problem Shared* 3.00 *How's Lucy* 3.30 *Dennis* 3.45 *Mystery Island* 4.00 *Godzilla* 4.30 *The New Leave It To Beaver* 5.00 *Sky Star* 5.30 *How's Lucy* 6.00 *The New Price is Right* 6.30 *Sale Of The Century* 7.00 *Wrestling In London* 8.30 *The Hitchhiker* 10.30 *Jamerson Tonight* 11.00 *Sky News* 11.30 *The Invisible Man*
- SKY NEWS
- News on the hour.
- 5.00am *International Business Report* 5.30 *European Business Channel* 6.00 *International Business Report* 11.30 *International Business Report* 1.30pm *NBC* Today 2.30 *Parliament Live* 3.15 *PM's Question Time Live* 3.30 *Parliament Live* 4.30 *News At Five* 5.30 *Beyond 2000* 7.30 *The Reporters* 8.30 *Frank Bough* 9.30 *Target* 10.30 *The Reporters* 11.30 *NBC News* 12.30am *Frank Bough* 1.30 *Target* 2.30 *Target*
- SKY MOVIES
- All films will be scrambled from 6.00pm
- 6.00 *Elvis* (1956) An American reporter (John McEwen) tries to uncover the truth behind the death of his mother
- 4.00 *Assault in Britain* (1980) Animated feature
- 6.00 *Carry On England* (1976) The Carry On team are on board an anti-aircraft ship during the Second World War
- 7.40 *Entertainment Tonight*
- 8.00 *The Wheelchairer* (1989) Michael Caine investigates his son's death by suicide
- 10.00 *Platoon* (1986) New recruit Charlie Sheen finds himself in the midst of tough fighting in the Vietnam War. With William Batts and Tom Berenger
- 12.00 *No Way Out* (1987) Kevin Costner as a naval officer, caught up in the Washington political power game. With Gene Hackman and Sean Young
- 1.50am *The Falcon and the Snowman* Timothy Hutton and Sean Penn deal government secrets to the Russians
- 4.00 *Educating Rita* (1983) Julie Walters as a Liverpool housewife who joins the Open University. With Michael Caine as her alcoholic professor. Ends at 5.00am
- EUROSPORT
- 5.00am *As Sky One* 5.30 *Manu* 9.00 *International Sports Report* 10.00 *NHL* Ice Hockey: Edmonton Oilers v Calgary Flames 12.00 *Ringside* - Best of Superbouts: Muhammad Ali v Leon Spinks 1.00pm *Golf*: Australian Masters 2.00 *College Basketball* 3.30 *Golf* 4.00 *Eurosport* - What A Week! 7.00 *International Indoor Football*: European Championships 10.00 *World Championship of Wrestling* 10.30 *WWF Superstars of Wrestling* 11.00 *Wrestling* 12.00 *Golf*: Australian Masters
- MTV
- 6.00am *Kristiane Backer* 11.00 *Remo Control* 11.30 *Club MTV* 12.00 *Remo Control* 1.00pm *Paul King* 1.30 *Coca-Cola* 1.45 *Paul King* 2.00 *Coca-Cola* 2.15 *Paul King* 2.30 *Club MTV* 3.00 *Paul King* 3.15 *Club MTV* 3.30 *Paul King* 3.45 *Club MTV* 4.00 *Paul King* 4.15 *Club MTV* 4.30 *Paul King* 4.45 *Club MTV* 5.00 *Paul King* 5.15 *Club MTV* 5.30 *Paul King* 5.45 *Club MTV* 6.00 *Paul King* 6.15 *Club MTV* 6.30 *Paul King* 6.45 *Club MTV* 7.00 *Paul King* 7.15 *Club MTV* 7.30 *Paul King* 7.45 *Club MTV* 8.00 *Paul King* 8.15 *Club MTV* 8.30 *Paul King* 8.45 *Club MTV* 9.00 *Paul King* 9.15 *Club MTV* 9.30 *Paul King* 9.45 *Club MTV* 10.00 *Paul King* 10.15 *Club MTV* 10.30 *Paul King* 10.45 *Club MTV* 11.00 *Paul King* 11.15 *Club MTV* 11.30 *Paul King* 11.45 *Club MTV* 12.00 *Paul King* 12.15 *Club MTV* 12.30 *Paul King* 12.45 *Club MTV* 1.00 *Paul King* 1.15 *Club MTV* 1.30 *Paul King* 1.45 *Club MTV* 2.00 *Paul King* 2.15 *Club MTV* 2.30 *Paul King* 2.45 *Club MTV* 3.00 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Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6960 (-0.0105)

W German mark
2.8637 (+0.0002)

Exchange index
90.1 (-0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1776.1 (+13.8)

FT-SE 100
2249.3 (+12.6)

USM (Datastream)
149.70 (-1.19)

Market report, page 26

NatWest
lifts rate

National Westminster Bank has raised its mortgage rate to 15.4 per cent, adding 0.75 per cent to the cost of home loans. New borrowers are eligible for an 0.75 per cent discount.

French funds

Union des Assurances de Paris, France's leading life insurer, is raising £10.5 billion (£1.07 billion). About £40 million is earmarked for British institutions.

Rise to £11m

Appleyard Group, the motor dealer, made pre-tax profits for 1989 of £11.1 million (£9.06 million) on sales of £414 million (£327 million). Earnings per share stay at 22.4p. The dividend rises to 7.8p.

Williams up

Williams Holdings, the industrial group, made £153 million before tax in 1989, a rise of 32 per cent. The final dividend rises 1p to 7p, making 11.5p.

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2584.68 (+20.48)
Dow Jones	
Tokyo	33321.67 (-1569.10)
Nikkei	
Hong Kong	2872.63 (-21.68)
Hang Seng	
Amsterdam	104.6 (-1.2)
CBS Tendency	
Sydney	1545.8 (-34.5)
Frankfurt	1776.04 (-13.60)
Brussels	
General	5668.16 (-38.17)
Paribas	482.94 (-11.7)
Zurich	586.8 (-4.4)
London	
FT-30 Share	1776.1 (+13.8)
FT-100	2249.3 (+12.6)
FT Gold Mines	294.2 (-11.4)
FT Fixed Interest	98.35 (+0.15)
FT Govt Secs	80.29 (+0.11)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER:	
Bass	973.4p (+11p)
Guinness	545.6p (+8p)
Bacardi	565.0p (+10p)
Royal	508p (+10p)
Whitbread 'A'	391.1p (+8p)
Standard Char	575p (+7p)
Empire Share	118.5p (+0.5p)

FALLS:

L. Joseph	467.4p (-10p)
News Corp	430p (-15p)
Wattmough	387.7p (-10p)
Mifflin	334.4p (-10p)
RM Douglas	38.5p (-8p)
Provident	373.4p (-17p)
Wolstenholme	242.4p (-20p)
Body Shop	475p (-25p)
A. Goldberg	80.0p (-17p)
SG Warburg	485p (-8p)
Dunhill	396p (-8p)
Lloyds Abbey	449p (-12p)
Shall	
Closing prices	242.12
SEAO Volume	587.0m

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	15%
3-month Interbank	15.15-15.25%
3-month eligible bill	14.15-14.25%
US Prime Rate	10%
Federal Funds	8.14%
3-month Treasury	7.88-7.97%
30-year mortgage	9.52-9.57%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£: \$1.6960	\$: £1.6927
£: DM2.8637	DM: £1.6857
£: Sfr2.5190	Sfr: £1.4886
£: FF9.7011	FF: £1.7205
£: Yen25.20	Yen: £1.6807
£: Index	90.1
ECU	1.3634
SDR	1.7573
ECU1.3634	SDR1.7573

GOLD

London Fixing	AM \$412.75 PM \$411.30
close	\$411.00-411.50 (\$242.25)
New York	412.75
Comex	\$411.10-411.60

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Apr)	\$19.30 bbl (\$19.20)
Donatex latest trading price	

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
Australia	2.35	2.15
Austria	20.95	19.75
Belgium	62.50	58.70
Canada	1.15	1.08
Denmark	11.43	10.23
Finland	10.09	9.48
France	2.98	2.81
Germany	2.98	2.81
Greece	202.50	202.50
Hong Kong	13.28	12.59
Ireland	1.15	1.03
Italy	22.15	20.85
Japan	267	251
Malaysia	3.25	3.17
Netherlands	11.53	10.47
Portugal	264	248
South Africa	4.45	4.25
Spain	191	178
Sweden	10.26	10.26
Switzerland	2.63	2.47
Turkey	4525	3925
USA	1.1703	1.083
Yugoslavia	1.083	1.083

Notes for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 119.5 (January)

London rides biggest Tokyo plunge since crash

By Joe Joseph, in Tokyo, and Stephen Leather, in London

Stock markets in London and New York shrugged off Tokyo's biggest one-day share plunge since the 1987 worldwide market crash.

Dealers were nervous as trading began in the wake of Tokyo losses that at one point saw the Nikkei index plummet more than 2,400 points, equivalent to more than 7 per cent of the total value of the market. The Nikkei closed 1,569 points lower in a day that also saw the yen collapse.

But futures-related buying and bargain hunting supported US stocks as trading began in New York. The Dow Jones was soon

seven points up and by mid-day was 23.20 points higher at 2,587.39 in moderate trading.

At one point the FT-SE 100 was 28 points lower but the news that Wall Street was holding up gave London shares a late boost and the FT-SE closed 12.6 higher at 2,249.3.

In Tokyo analysts said the worst was over. Mr Peter Tasker, head of research in Tokyo at Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank, said: "The sickening plunge has been completed." But, he added: "I certainly don't think we'll be going back to the highs for a while."

"The Japanese market fell 21 per cent in the crash of 1987. The market is now 17 per cent below its

New Year's eve peak. I don't expect it to decline much from these levels. But that doesn't mean a rally will hold while the yen and bond prices remain weak. The fundamentals are poor."

The Japanese authorities last night eased restrictions on margin trading to try to lure small investors into the market and restricted

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the computer-triggered programme selling that has sent Tokyo share prices reeling faster than they might otherwise have done over the past week. They acted to prop up the bond market, whose weakness has contributed to the fall in

share values, by cancelling a bond auction due this week. The Finance Ministry has also been buying in bonds.

These moves came after the Nikkei went into freefall, diving by more than 2,400 points before bargain-hunting clipped losses. The index ended the day at 33,321.87, the first time it has closed below 34,000 since last July. Light trading magnified the fall, equivalent to 4.5 per cent of the market's value.

Dealers said that while the financial authorities' action will help to underpin the market, the fundamental economic factors behind the market's fall will inhibit a strong recovery. The prospect of

another rise in Japanese interest rates, higher inflation, firmer oil prices and a still sickly yen have all undermined confidence in Japanese share prices.

The Bank of Japan has gone out of its way to calm the stock market's nerves by saying it will not tighten monetary policy as long as the market remains so volatile. But it still thinks a jump in interest rates would bolster the yen and eventually pave the way for lower interest rates.

Opposing it is the Finance Ministry, which is worried that tighter monetary policy will stifle economic growth. Confusion created by the disagreement is probably doing more to unsettle stock

prices than fear of higher interest rates.

The Bank of Japan is said to have sold nearly \$2 billion, its largest one-day dollar sales since May 19, 1989, but without much impact. The dollar soared to its highest in eight months, finishing 2.18 yen up at 148.65 yen. By the close in London the yen had fallen from ¥146.85 to the dollar at the previous close to ¥148.75.

The US currency also closed up nearly a penny at DM1.6875. Against sterling it rose from \$1.7065 to \$1.6960. The pound was almost unchanged at DM2.8637, but its weakness against the dollar clipped 0.1 from the effective rate index to 90.1.

Boots rejects £700m French drug approach

By Gillian Bowditch

Boots, the high street retailer, has turned down an offer, believed to be about £700 million, for its pharmaceutical business from Rhône-Poulenc, France's largest chemical group.

The French company, which has the 15th largest pharmaceutical business in the world, wanted to buy Boots' equivalent division as part of its strategy of becoming one of the world's top 10 drug groups.

It made the approach in the wake of Boots' £900 million acquisition of Ward White and the news that trials of Manoplax, Boots' new heart drug, had proved disappointing.

Boots refused to comment on the Rhône-Poulenc approach but M Jean René Fourtoun, president of the French company, said the talks fell through when it became apparent that Boots did not want to sell the pharmaceutical business.

"They wanted to keep the company, not to sell," M Fourtoun said.

"They have some products coming on stream and I think it may be better for them to sell after they have registered these drugs. I think they may then get more money for the

business," M Fourtoun added. Last month Rhône-Poulenc announced it was bidding \$1.7 billion to gain a majority stake and board control of Rorer, the United States drug group.

If the deal goes ahead, Rhône-Poulenc will become the sixth largest pharmaceutical group in the world. M Fourtoun would not disclose exactly what he was prepared to pay for the Boots business but says: "It would have cost us less than Rorer."

A spokesman for Boots said yesterday that it was committed to keeping its pharmaceutical business, which had sales of about £540 million in the year to March 1989, 20 per cent of the group's turnover. He added that clinical trials on Manoplax are continuing. The initial disappointing results last September, which suggested that the drug may be no more efficient than a placebo and which wiped £280 million off the value of the company, may have been a blip.

"The results of the clinical trials so far are promising but we are not in a position to make a final announcement on Manoplax one way or another just yet. The trial programme is continuing," Boots said.

In September, Boots said it was considering cancelling its research into Manoplax on the

back of the early test results. At that stage the group had spent £50 million developing the drug, which analysts said could be generating profits of £100 million by the mid-1990s and which was to be Boots' main new drug for this decade.

The shock announcement on Manoplax led many to believe that Boots would sell the pharmaceutical division, and Sir James Blyth, the Boots chief executive, said the group would consider all the options open to it.

Boots now says that had it not been in the middle of an offer for Miller & Santhorne, the optician chain, it would not have made an announcement on Manoplax so quickly but would have waited for further results and analysis of the tests.

The future for Manoplax now looks rosier. "The worst scenario now is that we sell Manoplax on to someone else, the best scenario is that everything goes ahead as originally planned," said the spokesman. "We are in talks with other companies about co-marketing Manoplax in the US."

Boots shares fell 3p to 263p yesterday on a downgrading from Phillips & Drew, the broker. It reduced its forecast for the year to March 1991 by £30 million to £365 million.

Anglo chief calls on Mandela



Meeting Mandela: Gavin Rely, of Anglo American, arrives at the Soweto township home of the ANC leader yesterday

Mr Gavin Rely, chairman of Anglo American, the gold and diamond group, and potentially most at risk from African National Congress nationalisation threats, met Mr Nelson Mandela and black National Union of Miners officials in Soweto yesterday (writes Colin Campbell).

Business circles were surprised by the formal communiqué from Anglo American

saying they talked only of industrial relations issues — not nationalisation.

Anglo and NUM officials are already engaged in talks about Anglo's industrial relations, and businessmen had expected a more definitive view on intended ANC economic policy.

After the meeting, Mr Mandela reaffirmed the ANC's nationalisation policy, and in turn, Mr Rely stuck to

his support of free economies. However, it is understood that a further meeting between Anglo officials and Mr Mandela may be arranged to discuss wider issues.

Nationalisation and continued sanctions against South Africa have been cited as the questions potential investors wish to be cleared before deciding whether to commit fresh funds to South Africa. Mr Mandela is scheduled to

meet other local and foreign businessmen.

Anglo touches virtually every aspect of the South African economy and employs more than 200,000 people of all races.

Among South African mining houses it is the dominant player in the production of that nation's gold.

Queens Moat wins 52.8% of Norfolk

By Our City Staff

Norfolk Capital, the hotels and clubs group, finally lost its struggle for independence yesterday. But, as expected, the result was close. Queens Moat Houses announced that it either owned, or had accepted for, 52.8 per cent of Norfolk's share capital.

Queens Moat's all-share bid was declared wholly unconditional. This ends one of the longest-running City sagas which started with Mr Peter Eyles, Norfolk's managing director, falling out with Lady Joseph, his former mother-in-law and an 8 per cent shareholder. Lady Joseph is the widow of Norfolk's founder, Sir Maxwell Joseph, the man responsible for Norfolk's army of more than 20,000 shareholders.

It appeared that most of this army of small shareholders remained loyal to the Norfolk board, despite Lady Joseph's recommendation to accept the Queens Moat offer after she, with fellow director Mr Anthony Good, resigned from the board.

Queens Moat had 6,115

acceptances — just under one in three of Norfolk's shareholders.

Acceptances worth a further 3 per cent could not be counted because they were not valid for one technical reason or another.

In all, Queens Moat had acceptances for 42.9 per cent of Norfolk's shares, but bought a further 9.9 per cent in the market to ensure victory. Last night, Norfolk's failure to keep its share price ahead of the value of Queens Moat's all-paper bid was being blamed for its defeat.

Mr John Baird, Queens Moat's chairman, said: "We look forward to welcoming Norfolk Capital's shareholders and employees to Queens Moat."

The victorious board was arranging to meet the Norfolk board this morning and hopes to meet the operational management as soon as possible after that.

Charterhouse, Queens Moat's financial adviser, was unable to say last night whether Mr Eyles had a future with the enlarged group.

Government aids accountancy body

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

The Government has agreed to provide £1.2 million a year for three years to help fund the £3.4 million budget of the Financial Reporting Council, the new organization to be set up by Sir Ronald Dearing to set and oversee accounting standards.

Its contribution is mainly to provide a £1 million a year legal fund in case company accounts have to be challenged in court. It will be raised by a levy of about £1 a year, on companies registered

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at Companies House, plus a £200,000 contribution from the public sector.

The accountancy profession has agreed to provide £1.2 million. This will come mainly from big auditing firms with individual members of the institutes expected to pay roughly the £440,000 a year cost of the existing voluntary joint Accounting Standards Committee.

The International Stock Exchange will provide a further £750,000 a year and the banks

£250,000, initially paid by the Bank of England. The ISE will probably raise its contribution from an increase, averaging about £350 per company, in annual listing fees.

Sir Ronald, appointed as chairman-designate of the FRC, said the new machinery — in the form of companies limited by guarantee — could now be set up as funding has been agreed and his proposals approved by the Department of Trade and Industry and the Bank of England.

Mr Philip Couse, president of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Mr Andrew High Smith, chairman of the Stock Exchange, and Sir Trevor Holdsworth, president of the CBI, are to be deputy chairmen of the FRC.

Sir Ronald said he hoped shortly to appoint a full-time chairman for the Accounting Standards Board, which is scheduled to replace the Accounting Standards Committee from August.

Senior FRC figures are expected to start meeting in May before it is formally established.

Isle of Man theatre is the setting for the end of bank drama

By Matthew Bond

A full house is not expected at the Villa Marina theatre at Douglas on the Isle of Man today. The storms and gales which have caused so many ferries and planes to be cancelled have seen to that.

But so too have old age and sickness. The relentless passage of time has ensured that a number of depositors will not be making it to the final creditors' meeting of the Isle of Man's Savings and Investment Bank due to be held in Douglas. It was way back in the summer

of 1982 that the bank collapsed with debts of more than £44 million. Today those depositors who can get there will hear that they are likely to get little more than £6 million returned. After eight years' costly and time-consuming work the liquidator, Cork Gully, is proposing a first and quite possibly final dividend of just 15p in the pound.

The bank's depositors, 2,000 of whom registered claims of £35 million, do have the chance to turn down the proposed payout but Mr Michael Jordan, the liquidator, believes they are likely to

accept. He even holds out the hope of a smaller final dividend before the liquidation is wound up.

Of the £44 million loan book, the liquidators recovered just £8 million, the rest remaining as elusive as the missing financier Mr Jim Raper, the businessman linked to many of the companies the bank lent money to.

Interest and successful legal claims against the bank's auditors helped take the total towards £13 million. But many millions of that have been used up in relentless litigation.

ARROWS LIMITED

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Share-buying casts shadow over group's better than expected results

Brierley raises Vickers stake

By Colin Campbell

A leap in Vickers' 1989 pre-tax profits from £69.8 million to a higher than expected £83.6 million was overshadowed yesterday by news that Sir Ron Brierley had raised his stake in the company from 17.25 per cent to 18.21 per cent, equivalent to 17.94 per cent of the votes.

Sir Ron has previously said for the company's Rolls-Royce division to be hived off.

But Sir David Plastow, Vickers' chairman, reiterated that Rolls-Royce had served all of Vickers' shareholders well, adding: "The board of Vickers has resolved that Rolls-Royce is not for sale."

Rolls-Royce contributed £24.7 million to Vickers' results compared with £23.2 million previously, despite suffering a £5 million knock from currency movements. Its turnover was £253.2 million (£205.3 million).

Sir David said there had been a 16 per cent increase in world-wide retail sales by Rolls-Royce cars in 1989, and that the world-wide retail sales increase in January had been 26 per cent. The division, which had achieved a 30 per cent return on trading capital, fitted in well with Vickers as a whole, Sir David added.

Defence and aerospace interests made a lower profits contribution at £11.8 million



Standing by Rolls-Royce: Sir David Plastow, the chairman of Vickers, yesterday

Laing hits back at Pall Mall bid

By Matthew Bond

Mr Brian Chilver, chairman of Laing Properties, has hit out at the "opportunistic" nature of the £440 million bid for Laing by Pall Mall Properties, the joint venture between P&O and the private group Chelsfield.

"The stock market is down, the property market is down. It is very opportunistic to come in at this time," he said. Pall Mall is bidding 650p in cash for Laing shares, which closed unchanged yesterday at 664p.

Mr Chilver described the level of the bid as "desperate". "It does not reflect the true value of the company, either as it stands now or in terms of potential we have within the portfolio."

Mr Chilver was speaking at the publication of Laing's first defence document, which does not contain details of profits for 1989 or the all-important details of the portfolio revaluation. But as of

Investors back sale at Ferranti

By Our City Staff

Shareholders in Ferranti International have approved the £270 million sale of the defence systems group to GEC.

Mr Eugene Anderson, the new chairman of Ferranti, said the company expects to receive the cash from GEC on Friday.

The meeting to approve Ferranti's planned £187 million rights issue has been adjourned until Tuesday. Provided the GEC cash is received by Monday, the plan will be abandoned.

Ferranti also said that, subject to the sale proceeds being received within the specified time period, it proposed to make a bonus issue of special shares — originally part of the rights plan — on the basis of one new special share for every 10 ordinary shares. Ferranti's rights issue plans followed an alleged fraud at its International Signal and Control subsidiary, which led to a net debt of £275.7 million.

Receiver called in at Wetherall

By Gillian Bowditch

Wetherall, the women's raincoat maker, has gone into receivership owing more than £2.5 million.

Mr Terry Carter, a partner at Ernst & Young, has been appointed administrative receiver for Wetherall and its sister company Dudes, an industrial outerwear and leisurewear manufacturer.

Wetherall, which has been in business since 1924, makes practical rainwear.

It has its own shop in London's Burlington Arcade and a concession within Selfridges.

Wetherall and Dudes were bought last year by the privately-owned Group PKA which went into receivership on January 8.

Starved of funds and support from their parent company, the companies were in limbo and the appointment of administrative receivers is the only way to allow the busi-

Sun setting on prospects of French takeover bid

COMMENT David Brewerton

The London market seems to be taking at face value the pledge by Union des Assurances de Paris that while it was planning to use the proceeds of the Fr10.5 billion share offer for acquisition, Sun Life — in which it holds 25 per cent — would not be on the list unless another predator intervened. Sun Life shares slipped just like all the others in yesterday's nervous markets.

The pledge by Jean Peyrelevade, UAP president, came on a flying visit to persuade UK institutions to take up the £40 million tranche of the issue earmarked for London. He may have much yet to learn about London, for to remove the takeover speculation is, for some so-called investors, to take away the motive for buying.

M. Peyrelevade explained that he would like the balance of UAP's business to remain split equally between life and non-life, but as its life operations in France were growing at more than 20 per cent a year, acquisitions would probably be concentrated on the non-life side. Opportunities opened up by the pan-European market after 1992 would be attractive for the very large insurers and for the companies exploiting specialized niches. However, he felt that the medium-sized companies would be seeking to form alliances with larger partners. "We are not predators," he said. "The ideal for us would be to reach a friendly agreement with somebody."

UAP's offer is timed to coincide with the relaxation of French restrictions on outside ownership of state-owned in-

urance companies. After the issue, the French government will hold 65 per cent of UAP's equity and the state-owned bank BNP will own a further 10 per cent. UAP is France's largest life insurer and third largest non-life company.

However, London analysts doubt that M. Peyrelevade will be rushing out with the cheque book just yet. UAP has splashed out Fr17 billion over the past two years, the bulk of which went on a 34 per cent stake in the French insurance holding company, Groupe Victoire. And his pledges about Sun Life may safely be taken at face value, if only because its share register is now completely deadlocked.

Liberty Life, the South African insurer, holds 29.9 per cent of Sun Life and five months ago both it and Sun Life entered into a cosy deal with UAP. Liberty Life agreed not to bid without offering its own stake to UAP at that price — an arrangement that in practice ensures there will be no bid until one or the other is prepared to give up.

The inflow of the issue proceeds will do nothing to alter that situation, and if anything is about to happen at Sun Life it is more likely to be a rights issue than a bid. Sun Life wanted to raise £62 million when UAP arrived on its share register in September 1988, but the plan was dropped. However, a year later it was struggling to pay its interim dividend out of shareholders' funds. Those hanging on for a lucrative bid battle may instead find themselves asked to dig into their pockets.

Sir Ronald's goodwill test

Funding arrangements for the new Financial Reporting Council, like the proposed balance on the council between accountants, practitioners and users of accounts, reflect the subtlety and powers of persuasion that Sir Ronald Dearing has displayed throughout the reform process. The Government has finally been persuaded to put up a third of the cost through a levy on all companies, defusing the accountants' fears that enforcing the new binding standards, if necessary through the courts, might bring huge open-ended commitments to legal fees.

Only the banks seem to have been recalcitrant, with the Bank of England having to act as an initial proxy. The accountants' other big fear was that vested interests, such as big companies, would buy influence on future accounting standards. That has also been resisted, though Sir Ronald allows for the possibility of "associates" who might make some financial contribution. Even allowing for inflation, the likely annual budget is about double Sir Ronald's initial estimates.

Brand-new machinery for setting and monitoring accounting standards will, however, still encounter the old thorny problems. First on the agenda for the

Accounting Standards Board, which is due to take over from the voluntary Accounting Standards Committee at the beginning of August, will be the controversial proposed new standards on accounting for goodwill and for intangible assets.

Responses to the ASC proposals were asked for by July 31, so the new ASB will take over both the proposals and the flood of conflicting criticism from all sides. Sorting that out will be a mighty test for co-operation between the auditing profession, industry and the financial community. Many finance directors have vehemently opposed writing off goodwill from acquisitions against profits in annual instalments. Banks, the Stock Exchange and the wider financial community are not notably keen about that or about the proposed treatment of brand names as goodwill. But a fudged compromise in the cause of pragmatism — which would probably take the form of leaving the status quo — would spell failure for the new system from the start.

Whoever is chosen as the first full-time chairman of the ASB will certainly have a baptism of fire, requiring somewhat different — and perhaps nastier — skills from those associated with the luminaries of the ASC.

Congress critical of checks at Lloyd's

From Susan Elliott, Washington

A US Congressional report has criticized Lloyd's of London for failing to check adequately the credentials of its names.

The report, issued under the direction of Mr John Dingell, the Democratic chairman of a subcommittee of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, comes in a week when Lloyd's faces a legal action from some members.

More than 800 members allege they lost \$304 million because of negligence by the manager of a syndicate to which they belonged.

The Congressional report generally commends Britain's regulatory measures and its reliance on independent auditors to check the accuracy of insurance company reports. But it criticized Lloyd's for "fraudulent and incompetent behaviour by some syndicate managers and brokers and resistance to paying large claims by syndicate members whose fortunes are at risk."

The report added: "The process of screening names for good character and financial worth has not included strong background checks or regular financial reports on individual syndicate members and has not prevented persons such as Carlos Miro from using his status as a Lloyd's name as an advertisement of his respectability."

Mr Miro, a Cuban-born London businessman, allegedly wrote fake insurance policies and is under investigation in the US by tax and immigration authorities. The Louisiana Commissioner of Insurance is suing Mr Miro and his companies for \$38.5 million.

The Congressional subcommittee interviewed the broker and lead underwriter at Lloyd's who dealt with him. They said it was irrelevant to look into his background because they based their assessments on knowledge of the insurance market and not the character of the person undertaking the risk.

Going over their sums at Drexel

Senior executives from Drexel Burnham Lambert, who had previously confirmed that they had paid themselves as much as \$350 million in bonuses since December, now say a more accurate figure is \$260 million. Meanwhile, US tax experts have been saying that if a bankruptcy judge rules that these bonuses constitute "fraudulent conveyance" — i.e. that they were paid in the knowledge that the company was going under — then the total bonus must be returned to the court. And that apparently means Drexel employees will not only have to dig into their own pockets for the money they received, but also make good the scores of millions that the Inland Revenue Service withheld, since US law dictates that taxes paid on a fraudulent conveyance are non-refundable. It has also come to light that a number of former Drexel employees are on the verge of bankruptcy as they had taken out personal loans from Citibank — one of Drexel's main bankers — to buy stock in the company which is now worthless. "Lots of people have been wiped out," said one former employee. And in what is tantamount to a warning to other banks, a US government official said it never had any "inclination" to bail out Drexel. "They were investment bankers, for heaven's sake," he said. "They knew the risks in what they were doing. The taxpayers weren't going to assume it for them."

THE TIMES NY CITY DIARY

Roaring appreciation

Car buffs and straight investment advisers alike have, it seems, all been impressed by Schroders director Alastair Menzies, who treated himself to a limited-edition Ferrari F40 for Christmas. The car, for which Menzies paid £175,000, would now fetch just short of £1 million in the second-hand market. "But I am going to keep it, I am not in this market to speculate,"

Busting out

The baby-boomers have now been replaced, in real estate language at least, by the "baby-busters." These are apparently couples who have no or fewer children and therefore require smaller and thus less expensive properties



than their predecessors. And they are now being blamed here as one of the factors causing developers and "realtors" — estate agents — to go out of business.

Throne up

Meanwhile, back at home, the price of plumbing these days seems to know no bounds. The Property Services Agency, part of the Department of the Environment, has just placed a contract for nearly £600,000 for the refurbishment of the lavatories at The Treasury, the address of which, you will remember, is Great George Street. The major works at the Treasury — "stage 2, stack 10" in contract-speak — will cost twice as much as the refurbishment of the ablutions at the Sir John Moore Barracks at Folkestone. The difference, I suppose, between a lavatory fit for a Chancellor and mere squaddies' ablutions.

Cavalier Cazenove

Cazenove, that most blue-blooded of British brokers, is equally well thought of in New York. But feminists here are becoming increasingly concerned that it is now more or less the only British firm without a female partner. And although the 11 Cazenove employees due to be made up to partnership level on May 1 have yet to be officially announced — they were personally told of their good fortune in an internal memo a month or two ago — it is understood that this list still does not include a woman. Davina Parker, long tipped to become the first female invited to join the partnership — since, as the granddaughter of one-time senior partner Sir Anthony Horroby, she at least had the right pedigree — left four years ago to join Henderson Administration as a fund manager. Now reputed to be next in line are Sheena Tate and Anna Simon. But already on this year's list are, one or two men a year or two their junior in terms of age. Whether this is an ominous indication or not, one insider, asked about the possibility of a female partner, laughed and said: "It's always been regarded as something that is unlikely ever to happen."

Something of an understatement... Lisa Ann Jones, the first Drexel employee convicted in an insider trading scandal at the firm, said in a US television interview on Saturday she feels "abandoned" by her former employer.

Carol Leonard
New York

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Late recovery

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began yesterday. Dealings end March 9. Contango day March 12. Settlement day March 19.
\$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 26).

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and then compare it with the daily dividend figure. If at the end of the month you have won enough to a share of the prize money, claim it by filling in the claim form and sending it to the prize fund. Always have your card available when claiming. Guide rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	Leisure	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	Leisure	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	Leisure	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	Leisure	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	Leisure	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	Leisure	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	Leisure	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	Leisure	100	+10	+10

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

UNDATED

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

INDEX-LINKED

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

BREWERIES

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

BUILDING, ROADS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

DRAPERY, STORES

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

ELECTRICALS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

FINANCE, LAND

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

FOODS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

HOTELS, CATERERS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

INDUSTRIALS A-D

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

S-Z

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

INSURANCE

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

LEISURE

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

MINING

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

OILS, GAS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

OVERSEAS TRADERS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
2	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
3	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
4	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
5	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
6	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
7	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10
8	Amalgamated	100	+10	+10

PROPERTY

136	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
137	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
138	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
139	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
140	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
141	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
142	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
143	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
144	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
145	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
146	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
147	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
148	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
149	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
150	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
151	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
152	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
153	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
154	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
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377	75	100	100	6.7	6.2
378	75	100	100	6.7	

[illegible][illegible]

150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860	861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000
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Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 90.1 (day's range 90.0-90.1).					
STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES					
Market rates for February 28					
	Range	Close	1 month	3 months	
New York	1.6955-1.6990	1.6955-1.6995	0.93-0.91P	2.76-2.74P	
Mumbai	2.1027-2.1063	2.1053-2.1080	0.50-0.51P	0.84-0.87P	
Bombay	2.1027-2.1063	2.1053-2.1080	0.50-0.51P	0.84-0.87P	
Brussels	91.48-91.59	91.59-91.72	20-20P	75-75P	
Copenhagen	10.8974-11.0274	10.9877-11.0111	21%-24%	7%-7%P	
Helsinki	1.0779-1.0813	1.0779-1.0813	11%-11P	4%-4%P	
Frankfurt	2.9595-2.9677	2.9622-2.9654	1%-1%P	11%-11P	
Lisbon	250.56-252.21	251.10-252.10	16P-10S	110-130S	
Milan	2.0671-2.184.35	2.0671-2.184.35	16-10P	11-10P	
Nation	211.31-211.78	211.63-211.78	15-10P	11-10P	
Oso	11.011-11.0562	11.0119-11.0434	3%-3%P	9%-9%P	
Paris	9.571-9.7058	9.6949-9.7052	3%-3%P	9%-9%P	
Rome	202.02-202.93	202.54-202.93	11%-11P	4%-4%P	
Tokyo	252.02-252.93	252.04-252.93	11%-11P	4%-4%P	
Vienina	20.13-20.20	20.14-20.20	11%-11P	31%-20.30P	
Zurich	2.9497-2.9576	2.9514-2.9576	11%-11P	3%-3%P	

OTHER STERLING RATES	
Argentina austral	7167.87-7188.
Australia dollar	2.2187-2.2220
Bahian dollar	0.6360-0.6440
Brazil cruzado	- 51.773-51.943
Ceylon rupee	0.7925-0.8025
French franc	2.2220-2.2220
Greece drachma	260.20-261.20
Hong Kong dollar	13.2588-13.2694
Indian rupee	28.77-29.07
Israeli sheqel	1.00-1.00
Japanese yen	4.6996-4.5941
Malaysian ringgit	4.6996-4.5941
Mexico peso	4.6915-4.7175
Netherlands guilder	2.9812-2.9855
Saudi Arabian riyal	6.0000-6.0000
Swedish krona	3.1625-3.1661
S.Africa rand (bn)	0.0141-0.0124
South African rand	0.0141-0.0124
U.S.A. dollar	0.1950-0.1970

*London Bank Rates supplied by
Extel and Barclays Bank GTS

Singapore	1.8625-1.8635	W Germany	1.6867-1.6874	Belgium (Com)	1.288.5-1.291.5
Malaysia	2.7030-2.7040	Switzerland	1.4814-1.4821	Hong Kong	35.11-35.16
Australia	1.3066-1.3083	Netherlands	1.9000-1.9010	Portugal	7.8095-7.8098
Canada	1.1945-1.1955	France	5.7050-5.7100	Spain	148.20-148.80
Sweden	6.1010-6.1080	Japan	148.65-148.75	Austria	108.40-108.50
Norway	6.4950-6.5000				11.89-11.90

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank GTS and Exel.

MONEY MARKETS

Overnight Light 15% Low 14% Week 14% Week 14%	Clarity	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth
2 mth 14% 3 mth 14% 4 mth 14% 5 mth 14%	8 1/2" x 11"	8K-8K	8K-8K	8K-8K	8K-8K
Buying: 2 mth - 14% 3 mth - 14% 4 mth - 14%	Call: 8K-7K				
Selling: 2 mth - 14% 3 mth - 14% 4 mth - 14%	Daneshchick				
2 mth 14% 3 mth 14% 4 mth 14% 5 mth 14%	7K-7K 8K-8K	8K-8K	8K-8K	8K-8K	8K-8K
2 mth 14% 3 mth 14% 4 mth 14% 5 mth 14%	French French	10K-10K	10K-10K	10K-10K	10K-10K
Trade table (Discount %): 1 mth 15%	Call: 11-10				
2 mth 15% 3 mth 15% 4 mth 15%	Call: 11-10				
5 mth 15% 6 mth 15% 7 mth 15% 8 mth 15%	Summit				
9 mth 15% 10 mth 15% 11 mth 15% 12 mth 15%	Call: 11-10				
13 mth 15% 14 mth 15% 15 mth 15%	Yam				
16 mth 15% 17 mth 15% 18 mth 15%	Call: 8K-5K				
19 mth 15% 20 mth 15% 21 mth 15%					
22 mth 15% 23 mth 15% 24 mth 15%					
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SE 100		Precious open interest 9374	Open High Low Close Vol		
Mar 90	2216.0	2281.0	2214.0	2268.0	6312
Apr 90	2216.0	2281.0	2214.0	2268.0	6312
Three Month Sterling		Precious open interest 15709			
Mar 90	85.27	85.27	85.21	85.24	2050
Apr 90	85.27	85.27	85.21	85.24	2050
Three Month Eurodollar		Precious open interest 4399			
Mar 90	91.61	91.61	91.29	91.20	5355
Apr 90	91.61	91.61	91.29	91.20	5355
Three Month Euro Dmt		Precious open interest 5254			
Mar 90	91.40	91.38	91.01	91.02	3963
Apr 90	91.40	91.38	91.01	91.02	3963
May 90	90.85	90.68	90.61	90.62	3963
Jun 90	90.85	90.68	90.61	90.62	3963
Three Month ECU		Precious open interest 2816			
Mar 90	90.13	90.13	89.76	89.80	1105
Apr 90	90.13	90.13	89.76	89.80	1105
U.S Treasury Bond		Precious open interest 3707			
Mar 90	90.13	90.13	89.76	89.80	1105
Apr 90	90.13	90.13	89.76	89.80	1105
Japan Govt Bond		Precious open interest 4296			
Mar 90	85.19	85.29	85.19	85.29	1105
Apr 90	85.19	85.29	85.19	85.29	1105
Mexico Govt Bond		Precious open interest 1105			
Mar 90	85.19	85.29	85.19	85.29	1105
Apr 90	85.19	85.29	85.19	85.29	1105
German Govt Bond		Precious open interest 3771			
Mar 90	85.19	85.29	85.19	85.29	1105
Apr 90	85.19	85.29	85.19	85.29	1105

LONDON FOX				LONDON METAL EXCHANGE				
				Official price/volume previous day			Product	
				(P/Volume)	Cash	3 months	Vol	Time
COCOA	AMT Futures							
Mar 640-639	Dec 706-703							
Jul 685-684	May 695-694							
Sep 684-683	May 745-745							
Feb 684-683	Vol 5696							
Mar 624-623	Nov 672-659							
May 640-639	Jan 683-683							
Jul 640-639	Mar 700-700							
Sep 680-658	Mar 700-700							
Nov 672-670	C 680-680							
Dec 706-704	C 680-680							
Mar 317-317	Oct 310-310							
May 319-319	Dec 309-299							
Aug 309-309	Mar 298-300							
Nov 300-300								
LONDON GRAIN FUTURES				METALS & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION				
				All 'g' futures prices at representative				
				markets on February 26				
WHEAT	Mar 111-80	Jul 114-75	Vol 47					
Mar 111-80	Jul 114-75	Jan 115-75						
Nov 115-75	Mar 115-75	Jul 115-75						
BARLEY C	Mar 110-25	Jul 109-75	Vol 27					
Mar 110-25	Jul 109-75	Jan 103-50						
Nov 110-25	Mar 110-25	Jul 110-25						
SOYABEAN	Mar 104-25	Jul 103-50	Vol 31					
Mar 104-25	Jul 103-50	Jan 103-50						
Nov 103-50	Mar 110-25	Jul 110-25						
CATTLE	Mar 111-80	Jul 114-75	Vol 47					
Mar 111-80	Jul 114-75	Jan 115-75						
Nov 115-75	Mar 115-75	Jul 115-75						
PORK	Mar 111							

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Male or female candidates should submit in confidence a comprehensive C.V. or telephone for a Personal History Form to, M. Stein, Hoggett Bowers plc, 1/2 Hanover Street, LONDON, W1R 9WB, 01-734 6852, Fax: 01-734 3738, quoting Ref: H17065/7.

Hoggett Bowers

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International Lawyer

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If you are currently a senior lawyer or negotiator with 3-5 years experience in the oil and gas industry, have at least a good working knowledge of French and believe you have the initiative and strengths required to join this exciting company and contribute to its further growth and success, then we would be delighted to hear from you.

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PHH France and PHH Ireland, all of which is designed to realise the potential of our services in the USA and the European Community.

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position offering great scope to develop as part of a multi-disciplined and highly successful team.

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PHH

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DTI

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There are currently four legal advisory posts available involving general advisory, and drafting work, coupled with some negotiation on issues of commercial and business law, domestic, EEC and international. The posts cover a wide range of substantive and regulatory law in the commercial field - advice and legislation (primary and secondary), on companies, securities, insurance, bankruptcy, consumer protection, competition issues and external trade, advice and drafting on contracts for the Government's grants to industry and advice on all legal

aspects of the government's relations with industry.

Two posts in Investigations Division are also available. This Division prosecutes offences under the Companies Act 1985, the Insolvency Act 1986, and other legislation in the commercial field. Lawyers also provide advice on the investigation of companies under the Companies Act and on allegations of insider dealing.

If you would like to find out more about the work of the Solicitor's Department, please contact Elaine Drage on 01-215 3170.

Starting salaries in London range from £17,585 to £35,740 according to experience and grade on appointment. Prospects for promotion, which is solely on merit, are excellent.

For an application form, please write to the Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Application forms must be returned by 15 March 1990. Please quote ref G(1)576.

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Likely to be in their early 30s, applicants should be qualified solicitors keen to develop a career in commerce. A broad range of skills and interests is essential to match the varied tasks involved in the position.

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Please write to Mr J. M. Graham, Executive Director at Sumitomo Finance International, 107 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DT enclosing a comprehensive CV.



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THE LAW

Courting favour in world commerce

There are about 6,000 practising members of the Bar, about 500 of which specialise in commercial law. The work sounds straightforward, but it is a speciality which requires some explanation. It derives in part from Britain's long-term position as a leading trading nation. Over the years, we have exported not only our goods, but also our mercantile law. This has been adopted as a foundation for international trade.

The speciality is also derived from London's long-standing primacy as a centre for insurance and financial services. As a result, the practice of the commercial Bar has focused on international trade, shipping and aviation, banking, insurance, commodity transactions and European Community law.

Its membership is not large in relation to the quantity and value of its work. Within its competitive field, standards in advisory work and advocacy are high. It also prides itself on attracting the pick of the recruits to the Bar because of the interest, intellectual demands and rewards of its work.

The success of the commercial Bar has both fed, and fed upon, the unique institution of the Commercial Court, which is, in effect, a separate division of the High

Improved facilities and marketing are

essential if the Commercial Court is to hold its position, David Steel QC writes

Court. It offers procedures tailored to the requirements of the international business community. Because it is manned by judges drawn from the commercial Bar, it also instils confidence that the court is familiar with the intricacies of the commercial world.

The success of the Commercial Court can be appreciated from the fact that in more than half its cases in 1988, none of the parties was English, and in 80 per cent of cases at least one party was resident abroad. No other jurisdiction can match these statistics.

Every effort must be made to improve the Commercial Court's facilities; for example, in the form of information technology in the courtroom. Assuming "privatisation" is not an option, any refusal on the part of the Government to respond would be false economy. Both the court, and those who service it, are a fundamental part of the invisible exports industry.

LEGAL BRIEF

The commercial Bar has just formed its own association (Combar) to improve and promote its services here and overseas. Leaving aside the Courts and Legal Services Bill, the impact of which remains uncertain, the recent reforms instituted by the Bar itself furnish exciting opportunities for further strengthening the commercial Bar.

The new freedom to advertise is a significant reform, particularly as it comes when direct access to the Bar (without the need to go through a solicitor) is being introduced for a wide range of professionals.

The first stage in Combar's campaign to market the commercial Bar has been the publication of a brochure for foreign lawyers. The booklet explains the English legal system, a breakdown of services available from the commercial Bar, and contains a directory of Combar chambers and barristers.

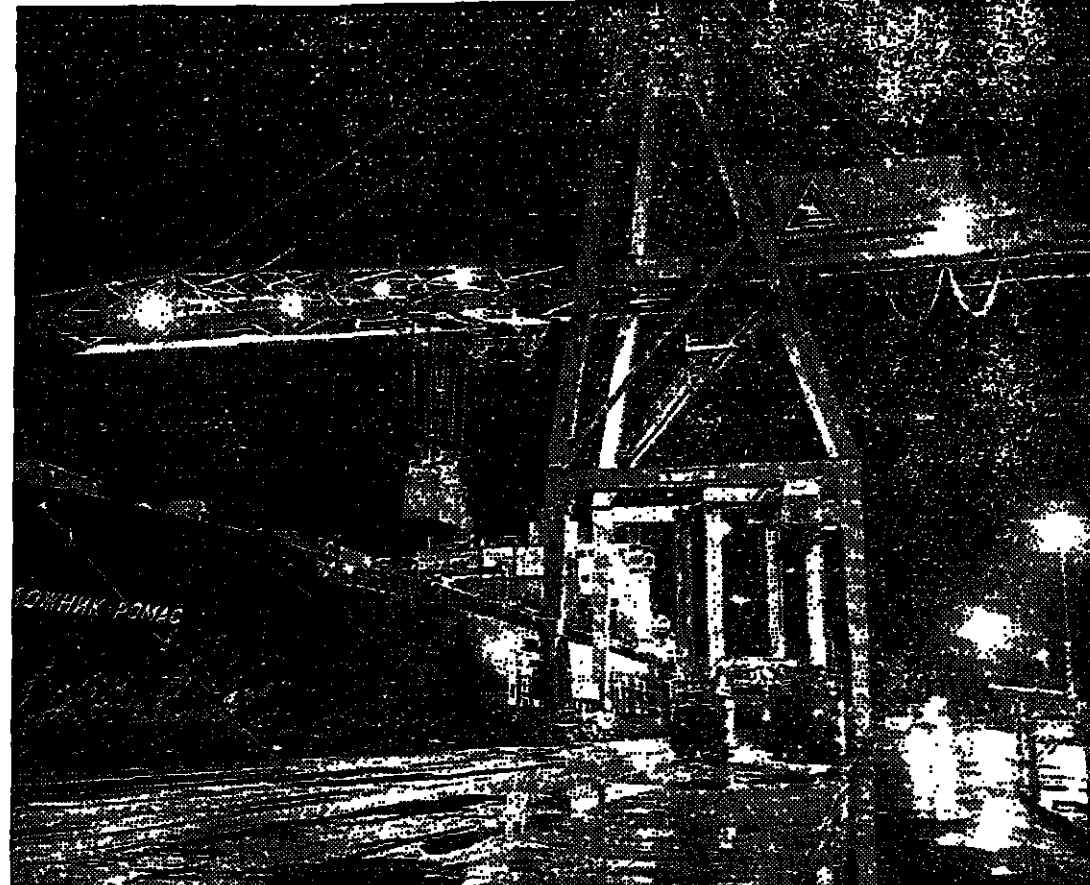
The reaction of Continental and American firms with London offices has been favourable. But in reality the commercial Bar is already highly accessible. A commercial set of chambers has communication equipment and information technology to match any legal office.

The ultimate consumers, be they banks, insurance companies or exporters, must become better informed of the work of the commercial Bar. There is no excuse for the commercial Bar not being able to market its specialist skills, matched as they are by low overheads.

It is a pity that the Courts and Legal Services Bill provides a time-consuming diversion. Made, as it is, of largely enabling legislation, it affords no opportunity for a long-term view by either branch of the profession. But the commercial Bar takes comfort from the fact that the Government and all solicitors believe continuance of an independent Bar is fundamental to the administration of justice and crucial to the standards of excellence set by solicitors' firms.

The future of commercial law is set fair — for bench, bar, solicitor, undergraduate and, most importantly, client.

● The author is chairman of the Commercial Bar Association.



Port of call: along with its goods, Britain has also exported its mercantile law, now a basis for world trade

Law Report February 27 1990 Court of Appeal

'Ill-treat' in mental health Act is not the same as 'wilfully to neglect'

Regina v Newington
Before Lord Justice Watkins,
Mr Justice Mans-Jones and Mr
Justice Owen

[Judgment February 23]

"Ill-treat" could not be equated with "wilfully to neglect" in section 127(2) of the Mental Health Act 1983 and the Court of Appeal advised the Crown Prosecution Service to put each such charge in a separate count in an indictment.

Their Lordships also set out a model direction for giving to the jury on *mens rea* before they could convict on a charge of ill-treatment contrary to section 127(2).

The Court of Appeal, in a reserved judgment, quashed four convictions at Maidstone Crown Court (Judge Waley, QC and a jury) of Susan Newington, aged 43, of Cliftonville, Kent, owner of a residential home for the elderly in Margate, of ill-treatment of a patient contrary to section 127(2). Convictions had been recorded also on each of three counts of common

assault on a patient. One such conviction was quashed on appeal.

She was sentenced to six months imprisonment concurrent on each count of common assault. On each count of ill-treatment she was fined £5,000 and was ordered to pay £15,000 towards the cost of prosecution.

The jury had acquitted her of one other count of common assault and one of ill-treatment of a patient.

On appeal the costs order was reduced to £5,000 and the court made a defendant's costs order under section 16 of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985 for payment out of central funds of her costs of appeal.

Section 127 provides: "(2) It shall be an offence for any individual to ill-treat or wilfully to neglect a mentally disordered patient who is for the time being subject to his guardianship under this Act or otherwise in his custody or care (whether by virtue of any legal or moral obligation or otherwise)."

Mr Stuart Stevens and Mr Geoffrey Cox, neither of whom appeared below, for the appellant; Mr Robert Fischel for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellant's residential home was licensed for the care of 34 residents but 10 or more extra residents were there from time to time. Many of the patients suffered from some kind of mental disorder.

She was a well qualified and very experienced nurse and was regarded by some people, including doctors and relatives of residents, as coping with the difficulties of managing the home competently and beyond justifiable complaint. But others, including doctors, relatives of residents and staff held very different views about the state of the home, the way it was run and the manner in which she treated some of the residents.

The way in which she ran the home became a matter of public concern, especially after a television programme highly critical of the appellant appeared. Investigations then were begun by the police and others into what was going on. They culminated in the appellant's arrest at a time when there were 44 residents, which was described by a detective inspector as, in part, appalling but otherwise clean, bright and free of objectionable smells.

Specific evidence related to the way in which four residents were treated. Each was the subject of counts of common assault and ill-treatment of a patient.

The jury acquitted her of one count of assault and her conviction on another such count was quashed by the Crown. Each was flawed by a misdirection of the judge. Their Lordships had no alternative but to quash the conviction on that count.

Because of her convictions the appellant was no longer allowed to be a keeper of a home for the elderly and infirm.

The grounds of appeal were numerous and some had given their Lordships cause for real concern. Mr Stevens argued that the judge confused the jury about which evidence supported each count; he was wrong in directing them that evidence of common assault was equally evidence of ill-treatment; there was no direction on *mens rea*; the jury were permitted to convict on a different basis from that exposed by the Crown and the review generally of the evidence was not properly balanced as between that called by the Crown and that by the defence.

Their Lordships had heard much argument from Mr Stevens and Mr Fischel about "ill-treatment" and "wilful neglect". The judge, when interrupted for the purpose by Crown counsel during the summing up, discussed with both counsel the question whether the four counts were duplicitous. They each alleged "ill-treatment" and "wilful neglect". The judge, at

that late stage, ordered the indictment to be amended so as to delete from each of those counts the allegation of wilful neglect. Only ill-treatment was left for the jury's consideration.

Mr Stevens maintained that the amendments were made on the assumption by the judge, rightly, that the relevant counts were or might have been duplicitous and, wrongly, that "wilful neglect" could be equated with and was contained in "ill-treatment". Unquestionably the judge had the power to amend the indictment as and when he did but their Lordships questioned whether it was ever wise to exercise that power during a summing up, especially of a long and complex case.

When such a course was pursued it had inevitably to deprive defence counsel — no matter that he did not object strenuously, or at all, to what the judge proposed to do — of the opportunity to address the jury on the implications of the amendment.

Furthermore, there was a risk of the judge being unequal to the task of properly adjusting his summing up to accommodate the change brought about by amendment.

There was much force in the submission that the trial judge failed to achieve that purpose and thereby confused the jury about the test they had to apply in relation to the charge of ill-treatment.

Their Lordships acknowledged that the judge was more or less led into the course he adopted by the indictment by an intervention in his summing up by Crown counsel but their Lordships regretted to have to say that, from that time onwards, there was a lack of clarity about the way the summing up proceeded and it might well have misled the jury on the issues involved in the indictment of a mentally disordered patient as he endeavoured to deal with those issues with, in mind, the amendment to the indictment.

It was not strictly necessary for their Lordships to consider Mr Stevens' point whether the ill-treatment counts, as originally drawn, were duplicitous.

It was, however, necessary to consider whether the terms "ill-treatment" and "wilfully to neglect" were mutually exclusive, since it was argued that in essence "wilfully to neglect" was some failure to act when moral duty demanded action while "ill-treatment" was some deliberate course of action.

If that was right, conduct which could come under the one heading could not be said to come under the other as well.

Mr Fischel argued that "wilfully to neglect" would in-

evitably amount to ill-treatment but not all ill-treatment would amount to wilfully to neglect.

Reference had been made to "wilfully assaults, ill-treats" in section 1(1) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 and to decisions in *R v Hayles* ([1969] 1 QB 364, 370) and *R v Beard* ([1987] 85 Cr App R 395, 400).

However, seeing that the words used in the 1983 Act were somewhat different from those used in the 1933 Act, in particular the one contained the word "neglects" and the other the words "wilfully to neglect", their Lordships felt strongly that "ill-treatment" could not be equated with "wilfully to neglect", for the latter expression involved consideration of a particular state of mind, while the simple word "neglects" might not.

Their Lordships would, therefore, advise the Crown Prosecution Service that, when proceedings were brought under section 127 of the 1983 Act, charges of "ill-treatment" and of "wilfully to neglect" should be put in separate counts in the indictment.

Their Lordships doubted whether the trial judge was correct in effect directing the jury that "ill-treatment" necessarily encompassed "wilfully to neglect".

It was, however, sufficient in the present case for the judge, when dealing with the *actus reus* of the offence charged to have, as he did, that ill-treatment was a deliberate form of conduct which could fairly and properly be so described.

Their Lordships did not agree with the further contention that, for the offence charged to have been committed, the treatment must have resulted in actual injury to the patient or at least to have caused him or her unnecessary suffering, or injury to health. The 1983 Act made no reference to the consequences of a mentally disordered patient as he endeavoured to deal with those issues with, in mind, the amendment to the indictment.

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If that was right, conduct which could come under the one heading could not be said to come under the other as well.

Mr Fischel argued that "wilfully to neglect" would in-

The judge should have told the jury that, for there to be a conviction of ill-treatment contrary to the 1983 Act the Crown would have to prove:

1. deliberate conduct by the appellant which could properly be described as ill-treatment whether or not that ill-treatment damaged or threatened to damage the health of the victim; and 2. a guilty mind, involving either an appreciation by the appellant at the time that she was inexcusably ill-treating a patient or that she was reckless as to whether she was inexcusably acting in that way.

No such direction was provided and their Lordships found that the jury were left to convict if they chose to on a different basis from that opened by the Crown — and, further, that the review generally of the evidence was not balanced between that called by the Crown and the defence evidence.

In section 1(2) of the 1983 Act "mental illness, arrested or incomplete development of mind, psychopathic disorder or any other disorder or disability of mind." "Patient" was defined by section 145(1) as "a person who appears to suffer from mental disorder".

There was a dispute whether at least one of the alleged victims was in fact mentally disordered. The jury needed a careful direction from the judge on that issue which included a reference to such evidence, if any, which tended to show that a victim was actually mentally disordered or from which it was possible to conclude that that victim appeared to suffer from a mental disorder.

That was lacking and constituted a material irregularity in the trial. The defects in the summing up made it incumbent on their Lordships to find that the convictions on all the ill-treatment counts were unsafe or unsatisfactory and had, therefore, to be quashed.

As to the assault allegations, each count made a specific, not a general, allegation. Accordingly, the Crown had to prove the specific act alleged. Other incidents of so-called assault, even if within the periods stated in the indictment could not found a conviction.

The conviction on one count could not be regarded as flawed and, on another count, the jury were fully entitled to return a conviction.

The appeal succeeded against conviction on the four counts of ill-treatment and on one count of assault. Otherwise, the appeal failed and was dismissed.

Solicitors: Kingsford Flower & Pain, Ashford, Kent; CFS, Maidstone.

For the mother it was argued that in the light of the Order 29 provisions, the judge in the instant case had no jurisdiction to attach a penal notice. The direction not to remove the children out of the jurisdiction was not in the nature of an injunction.

The argument was well-founded. The consent order was not an injunction. The judge had no jurisdiction to attach a penal notice to it.

Mrs Justice Booth agreed. Solicitors: Taylor Vintners, Cambridge.

Judge had no jurisdiction to attach penal notice to custody order

In re P (Minors)
Before Lord Justice Lloyd and
Mrs Justice Booth

[Judgment February 22]

A judge in the county court had no jurisdiction to attach a penal notice to a custody order.

The requirement of Order 29, rule 3 of the County Court Rules 1981 to endorse an order with a notice warning of the consequences of disobeying it applied only to an order made in the nature of an injunction.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the mother against that part of a custody order made by Judge Garfield in Cambridge County Court in October 1989 that provided that, any failure to obey its directions could result in imprisonment.

Miss Susan Espley for the mother, the father did not appear and was not represented.

LORD JUSTICE LLOYD said that the order, a consent order, gave the custody of two children to the mother and father jointly. It was in standard form, containing a direction that the children should not be removed from England and Wales without leave of the court.

Attached to the order, at the judge's direction and said by him to be a standard practice, was a notice that the mother and father "must obey the directions

contained in the order, if you do not, you will be guilty of contempt of court and may be sent to prison".

Order 29, rule 3 provided that on the making of an order enforceable by committing the proper officer should, if the order "is in the nature of an injunction", endorse it with a notice as to the consequences of disobedience.

In *Williams v Fawcett* ([1986] QB 604), Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, said that a custody order had no discretion and had to issue "a penal notice" at the time when the order was made if that order was in the nature of an injunction.

The argument was well-founded. The consent order was not an injunction. The judge had no jurisdiction to attach a penal notice to it.

Mrs Justice Booth agreed. Solicitors: Taylor Vintners, Cambridge.

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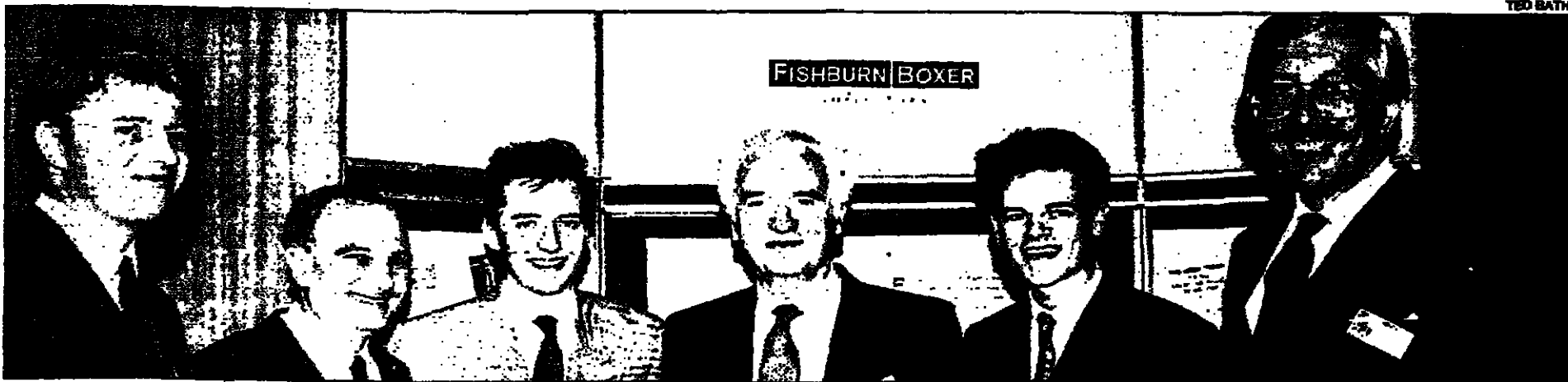
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THE LAW



Top table at the ceremony: runner-up Nigel Poole (left), Clive Boxer, winner Joseph Leake, Lord Mackay, runner-up Matthew Burgess and Michael Hamlyn, chief night editor of *The Times*

What is your name worth?

Results were announced on Friday of the second *Times/Fishburn Boxer Young Professionals' Competition*. At a ceremony in the Savoy Hotel, London, attended by Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, the winning prize of £1,000 and a Psion MC400 mobile computer was presented to Joseph Leake, a sixth-form student from Cecil Jones High School, Southend-on-Sea, Essex.

The runners-up were Matthew Burgess, who works for the Law Commission, and Nigel Poole, a pupil barrister from Manchester, who each received prizes of £250 and a Psion Organizer II.

The competition subject was the topical and controversial issue of libel damages and awards for injury, on the question, *Is the law right to value reputation more than life or limb?* Many entrants were clearly inspired by original thought, although their conclusions mostly veered towards the conservative.

"It was most encouraging to see so many entries of such a high calibre, although it was slightly disappointing that whereas girls did so well last year, we had none among our finalists this time," said Clive Boxer, senior partner of the sponsors, Fishburn Boxer, who shared the judging with Lord Mackay and Charles Wilson, editor of *The Times*. "What was also surprising was the tendency of entrants to support the status quo. In the light of recent developments we had been expecting expected rather more essays to take the opposite view."

Not that the disparity between value reputation more than life or limb? Many entrants were clearly inspired by original thought, although their conclusions mostly veered towards the conservative.

Edward Fennell on the winning Young Professionals

"reputation" and "life and limb" awards was entirely lost on our entrants. A runner-up, Nigel Poole, said: "Had Nikolai Tolstoy accidentally killed Lord Aldington instead of defaming him, he would now be a wealthier man. For while the jury in that famous case awarded damages of £1.5 million, damages for bereavement are fixed by Parliament at only £3,500."

Most of our shortlisted entries adopted what can only be described as a romantic view of reputation. The fact that Shakespeare had described it as both a "bubble" and a "jewel"

was not overlooked. But the runner-up, Matthew Burgess, observed: "If all that separates man from beast is his ability to evolve reason and creative thought, reputation may be all that is worth protecting. To inflict physical injury is to cause pain and blunt enjoyment of life, whether the injured is human or animal. To denigrate someone's achievements is to attack that part of them which is immortal and unique. Stephen Hawking lives within a crippled body but his reputation transcends his physical state. What would cause him more suffering, a serious car accident or an irremediable accusation of plagiarism?"

Neil Kitchener, a shortlisted entrant, invited us to a deathbed scene. He argued: "A person will review his life to judge whether he

has led a life of value. In doing so he will not conclude that he has failed to live a life of value because he has been deprived of an arm or a leg. Such a loss merely represents an obstacle, the overcoming of which will bring personal satisfaction and honour. The main yardstick by which a person will measure the value of his life will be his standing in society and the extent to which his good name will survive him."

What about those of us, however, whose achievements are more modest? It could be argued that libel is an indulgence of the rich and distinguished. Boxer noted essays pointing out that the system favours the famous.

● *Shortlisted: Joseph Leake, Southend; Matthew Burgess, Brighton; Nigel Poole, Manchester; Simon Dowler, London; Stephen Rhodes, London; Neil Kitchener, Cardiff.*

INNS AND OUTS

Equal pay for work of equal value was introduced when the Sex Discrimination Act was amended in 1986. A framework of legislation, however, has not been enough to ensure this right for women. In particular, the impact of a successful equal pay claim is minimized by the prohibition on class actions under English law. When the Sex Discrimination Act was introduced, the right of trade unions to refer discriminatory employment patterns to the Central Arbitration Committee for independent valuation disappeared. With it went the collective initiatives through the committee's ability to order an upgrading where women's pay was unfairly downgraded.

However, the unions have developed a strategy combining litigation with confrontation and negotiation that has already had a marked impact on equal-value policies in some industries. The strategy involves fighting an equal pay case through the courts, including the European Court if necessary, to establish a precedent, pursuing more cases on the basis of that precedent, then using the threat of further litigation to bring the employer to the bargaining table. Eagle Star revalued and regraded many women's jobs after an equal-value tribunal case involving typing supervisors and management secretaries. Pilkington Glass, Littlewoods Pools and the Bank of England Printing Works are among many others that have made equal-value concessions.

Next month the National Council for Civil Liberties publishes the first of three books on key civil-liberty issues in Northern Ireland. The book, by Vincent McCormack, a psychology lecturer at Ulster University, and Joe O'Hara, a trade union lawyer, is called *Enduring Inequality: Religious Discrimination in Employment in Northern Ireland*. It will follow the Government's attempt to redress the inequalities experienced by Catholics in the province through the Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Act 1989. Thirteen years after an Act by the same name outlawing discrimination in employment was passed by the then Labour administration, religious inequality has not decreased. Population surveys show that in the 13 years since the 1976 Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Act was passed, Catholic males are still two-and-a-half times more likely to be unemployed than Protestants.

McCormack and O'Hara draw on their experiences in academia, the law and the trade unions to chart the story of the campaigns that persuaded the Government that new legislation was needed. Internal pressure produced no government response and it was only when pressure from the United States built up that the Government produced the legislation. The authors conclude, however, that though the new Act introduces religious compulsory monitoring of all work-forces of more than 25 employees and outlaws indirect discrimination, the new measures are restricted and their potential will be limited.

Scrivener

Stumped: it's just not cricket

Contest winner Joseph Leake goes in to bat for the right to libel damages

again for the remainder of the season. Many lost games, I am sure, would have been saved had my cunning leg tweak been part of the school's bowling artillery. The school and, yes, even the county, had been robbed of a talent. I held all of this to be the truth, and was disgusted that my reputation as an effective second-change bowler (I hold the best bowling average for house cricket) lay in tatters.

A further event occurred which left an indelible impression on me. After lunch, it was the turn of the Cecil Jones High Fourth Year XI to bat.

Against me was a bumpy wicket, deteriorating light and two marauders who formed the opposition's pace attack. With keen eye and stout heart, I fought my way to 16 not out. Then, at the second ball of my fourth over, I looked at my wily adversary. He had a manic glint in his eye, he took his usual 10-mile-sprint run-up, and pitched it short. The ball bounced up to strike me on the side of the nose. That hurt. That hurt a lot, and I was caught out through losing heart, and my nose is still not quite plump with the rest of my face.

So what is the point of this anecdote and what bearing does it have on the law, libel and compensation? Well, if the decision I endured due to my idiosyncratic delivery can be seen as a simile for libel cases, and the physical pain as a simile for compensation cases for injury, I hope you are no more in the dark.

Which hurt more? Both hurt a great deal, but which had more lasting effect? My nose, I doubt, will ever be the same again, and whenever I talk to veterans of that fateful game, they remind me of my bowling action with jokes (ho-

"Hello, that's just the chap; he could be better than Childs."

Then maybe, I would have been selected for England, and by this time I would have honed my unique leg tweak to such precision that my fellow young lions would be thinking: "Hello, this chap Joe is going to win the series against the West Indies for us. Hurrah!"

There is a serious point to be made. False accusations can cause wounds which cannot be healed by medical treatment. Professional slander or libellous remarks wreck careers. Of course, injury can do the same, but at least everyone can claim for compensation through the Law Courts or insurance. The same cannot be said of libel, and until legal aid is given in such cases, there can be no justice.

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Ref. T27290A

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They offer:

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PUTTING THE RIGHT PEOPLE IN THE RIGHT JOBS

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HORIZONS

Do you want to be in movies?

A career as a cinema manager means more than turning up to roll the films. Derek Morgan asks two industry men about the attractions of their jobs

Cinema-going in Britain is showing signs of a revival. After a catastrophic decline from the late 1940s, audiences have grown from 54 million in 1984 to about 90 million for 1989. And spending on screen advertising has almost doubled. Increased audience and blockbuster movies have helped, but much of this success is the result of more customer-friendly cinemas. The two main British chains, Cannon and Rank, have refurbished their cinemas and several entrepreneurs have started independent picture houses. A couple of years ago, *Screen International* described exhibition as "the only thriving sector of the British film industry". But can the revival be viewed as a trailer for better prospects? The arrival of the American 10-screen multiplex, described as "a quantum leap ahead of the two and three-screen cinemas of the 1970s", has been a big boost in the campaign to woo people back to the movies. Since the first multiplex, The Point, opened at Milton Keynes in 1984, the concept has

spread to mainly new, out-of-town sites across the country, and there are now about 300 such cinemas. Stuart Boreman, general manager of the Meteor Centre multiplex in Derby, which is operated by United Cinemas International (UCI), has gone from trainee to management responsibility in 18 months. The centre's £4.5 million investment in 10 screens with 2,000 capacity and 40 staff (rising to between 50 and 60 in the busy winter season), makes his a demanding job. Derby's "Clash of the Titans" is a focus of national film industry attention since a rival multiplex, The Showcase, run by another American firm, National Amusements, opened at the same time, December 1988, a few miles away. Together, the Derby multiplexes claim to have increased city cinema admissions from about 200,000 a year to 1.2 million. Boreman graduated from Sheffield Polytechnic with a degree in film studies, then sold rock music-related merchandise in the United States for three years. The commercial experience and his time in America helped him to get



Multiplex: Boreman says criticism of the concept as the "fast food merchants of the business" is unfair

a job with UCI as a trainee manager on his return to Britain. Having trained in the Sheffield multiplex, he came to Derby after a spell as manager of The Empire, Leicester Square. The Meteor has a fast-food

restaurant (the Fast Lane with Pizza, Spud-Mex and New England Dairy Ice-Cream) and a popcorn bar. All new trainees work in these areas, as well as in the box office and as ushers. Managers attend UCI's Man-

chester training centre for off-the-job courses in employment law, cinema licensing legislation, health and hygiene, payroll reports and staff motivation. Boreman says: "A vital aspect of the job is the scheduling of film starting

times to maximize profit - otherwise you could have 2,000 people turning up at the same time."

"People call us the fast-food merchants of the cinema business, but I don't think that's fair. What is wrong with seeing films in a bright, clean environment?"

UCI takes management trainees from a wide background. Enthusiasm for the cinema helps and the company is keen to promote from within; the general manager of Britain's first inner-city multiplex, at Bayswater in London, started with UCI as an usher.

Salaries range from about £8,000 for a trainee manager to £18,000 for a general manager, plus performance-related bonuses. The next step would be regional responsibility.

Another cinema manager who has had to face the challenge of the multiplexes is Laurie Hayward, who runs the regional film theatre, The Metro, in central Derby, halfway between the two out-of-town sites. This single-screen 126-seater opened in 1981 and is one of the British Film Institute's subsidized network of "alternative" cinemas.

Hayward has an MA in Creative Photography and worked as a part-time lecturer and studio technician in higher education before applying for the job of Metro director when the cinema opened.

Academic qualifications in film studies are important in the subsidized sector with its educational and cultural responsibilities - The Metro runs after-the-show discus-

sions on selected features - but Hayward found his interview panel particularly keen to assess his administrative ability and business acumen.

He says: "People think it is selecting films and turning up in the evenings to watch them: that's about 5 per cent of it."

Salaries in the subsidized exhibition area start at about £8,000, rising to £13,000 in regional film theatre management, depending on the size of the operation.

To get started, undergraduates who are film enthusiasts should volunteer to help out at their college film society or local film theatre, then take their chances as they arise, keeping an eye open for recruitment advertisements in trade journals and the creative and media appointments pages of newspapers.

The *Film and Television Yearbook*, published by the British Film Institute, lists every "commercial" cinema in the country as well as the addresses of the cinema circuit headquarters. A section on BIF-supported cinemas gives details of the subsidized exhibition network. This is helpful for anybody interested in a career in the industry. It also details UK film and television study courses.

A booklet on cinema management as a career is available from United Cinemas International (UK), Parkside House, 51/53 Brick Street, London W1Y 7DU.

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In conjunction with other Senior Managers he/she will develop integrated management information systems, liaising with the Resource Management Initiative Project Manager. We will, in April 1990, be commencing Phase II of the new District Hospital which will include a new Theatre suite and Surgical wards. Basselaw Health Authority is well advanced in its plan to meet the challenges posed in the Government's White Paper - Working for Patients. Basselaw is ideally situated in the heart of the Dales and is easily accessible to both the A1 and M1 motorways.

Informal enquiries will be welcomed by the Director of Personnel, Mr. P.A. Lewis Telephone Worktop (0909) 500908 ext. 2736. Application forms and job descriptions are available from the Employee Services Unit, Basselaw District General Hospital, Kilm, Worktop, Wethers. 581 880. Telephone Worktop (0909) 500990 ext. 2741.

Closing date for completed applications will be 5th March 1990.

Basselaw Health Authority

CORONER

For the East District of South Yorkshire

£31,731 - £35,307

(plus a 5.5% salary supplement if the appointee joins the Local Government Superannuation Scheme)

The post is based in Doncaster and the Coroner's District comprises the Metropolitan Borough of Doncaster and Rotherham. The caseload for the district is in the region of 2,200 per year. You must be a barrister, solicitor or registered medical practitioner of not less than five years standing in your profession. Experience as Coroner, Deputy or Assistant Coroner would be an advantage.

Doncaster is well situated being in the centre of the motorway networks. Sport and leisure facilities are excellent and quality housing is available at reasonable cost.

Application forms and further details are available from the Personnel Unit, Chief Executive's Department, 2 Priory Place, Doncaster. DN1 1BN Tel. Doncaster (0302) 734020.

The closing date for applications is 19th March 1990.

We are an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications irrespective of race, sex or disability.

London & Provincial Nursing Services are looking for R.G.N.'S

Looking for a change Interested in a challenge To join London & Provincial Nursing Service as a Nurse Liaison Officer

LPNS have been invited by the Birmingham Health Authority to set up units within major hospitals in Birmingham. We are looking for nurses who have administrative skills, are motivated, not afraid of hard work to join our team, full time/Part time/Weekend work available.

Write now or telephone for an appointment to Mrs J Higgins LONDON & PROVINCIAL NURSING SERVICES 78 Borough High Street London SE1 1UL Telephone 01-403-3524 Interviews will be held in Birmingham

LEGAL

Solicitor/Barrister (3 posts) up to £21,500

Based in Exeter and within a team engaged mainly on litigation. The office handles a large amount of child care work as well as customer protection and various prosecution work; one post will be responsible for work for the Chief Constable principally licensing.

Post admission/call experience is required for the Police post and is desirable for the others, but those newly qualified are encouraged to apply.

If you seek challenging but rewarding work, living in a beautiful part of the country with easy access to the coast and two National Parks, ask for an application form and further details from the County Solicitor's Department, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QD. Tel: Exeter (0392) 272323 (24 hour answerphone). Closing Date: 12 March 1990

Devon COUNTY COUNCIL

WEST SUSSEX FAMILY PRACTITIONER COMMITTEE

DIRECTOR PLANNING & INFORMATION

£24K + PRP

West Sussex Family Practitioner Committee is the health authority responsible for provision of service through doctors, dentists, chemists and opticians to over 700,000 people in West Sussex.

This key offers outstanding career opportunity for enthusiastic, innovative manager, with central role in planning and information requirements for West Sussex primary health care. Includes production of corporate objectives and plans, development of computerised management information systems, and liaison with other health agencies. Postholder accountable to General Manager and qualified to bring a strategic approach to development of primary care services. Assistance with removal expenses available and car lease scheme in operation.

For informal discussion telephone General Manager, Terry Knott (0243) 781441.

Information pack available from Nicky Channon: same number.

Applications welcomed with full current CV, addressed to General Manager, West Sussex FPC, 175 Broyle Road, Chichester, PO19 4AD.

Closing date 20 March 90.

DIRECTOR OF FUNDRAISING for A ROYAL CHARITY

You will be experienced in major fundraising especially big gift and major asking power.

A remuneration package commensurate with this important role will be available.

Please write with full CV to: The Chairman CFP Limited, 23 Grove Park, White Waltham, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 3LW

cfp

KIDDERMINSTER AND DISTRICT HEALTH AUTHORITY KIDDERMINSTER GENERAL HOSPITAL ASSISTANT ESTATES MANAGER

Salary: Senior Managers Pay - Point 19 (£19,340) plus Performance Related Pay

Applications are invited for this challenging new post created following a review of Estates services within the District. This is a key position responsible for the day-to-day management of all estates operations and maintenance functions (including engineering, building and EBM departments) and for assisting the Estates Manager across the full range of his duties.

The post-holder will have particular responsibility for engineering maintenance standards and therefore must have a professional background in engineering. Candidates should be able to demonstrate a significant level of managerial achievement and performance and should hold corporate membership of either the Institution of Electrical Engineers, the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers or the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. Consideration will also be given to applicants who are working towards corporate membership of one of these Institutes.

Informal enquiries are welcomed by: Mr P. Male, Estates Manager, on ext 3330. An information pack is available from: The Unit Personnel Manager, Kidderminster General Hospital, Bewdley Road, Kidderminster, Worcs DY11 6JA. Tel: 0582 829424 ext 8167.

Closing date for receipt of applications: March 15, 1990.

THE MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

Director of Finance and Administration

This is an opportunity to join the top echelon of a charity with an acknowledged reputation for pioneering work relating to the mentally ill and mentally handicapped. The Foundation is both a fundraising and grant-making body and it supports medical research and work in the community.

The creation of this new post reflects the scale of planned growth and the greatly increased demand on the Foundation's resources.

A commercially attuned, qualified accountant is required to work closely with the Director-General in meeting the charity's objectives and with prime responsibility for all aspects of finance and administration at the headquarters in Central London.

Salary is for discussion in the £20,000/£25,000 bracket.

Please write in confidence with full CV to Geoffrey Elms, Charity Appointments, 3 Spital Yard, London E1 6AQ.

Charity Appointments

A registered charity serving the voluntary sector.

PUBLIC AND HEALTHCARE

MONMOUTH PHARMACEUTICALS, the UK based European Branch of Roberts Pharmaceutical Corporation has several challenging opportunities available:

CLINICAL RESEARCH MANAGER - M.D. or Ph.D. - 5 years industry experience in design, implementation & conduct of clinical trials with investigational drugs. Excellent writing skills a must.

CLINICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - University graduates with advanced qualifications in basic medical sciences & 2 years industry experience.

Positions hold excellent salaries & benefits. Send CV & salary history to:

Monmouth Pharmaceuticals, Laura J. Gigg, 4 Chancery Court, 20 Friarley Road, The Surrey Estate, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5YF.

City University Senior Administrative Assistant

Applications are invited from graduates with suitable experience for a post in the Registry concerned mainly with development of the computerised information systems and the provision of statistics. There will be an important and developing role in implementing the Management and Administrative Computing initiative and this is a fast-track appointment. Well qualified recent graduates with a computing/statistical background may also apply, for appointment as Administrative Assistant.

Salary on the Senior Administrative Staff scale II (£14,646 to £18,432) or scale I (Administrative Assistant) (£11,583 to £14,148).

For informal discussion please contact Mr B Black on 01-253 4399 ext. 3043.

For an application form and further details please write to the Deputy Academic Registrar at City University, Northampton Square, London EC1V 0HV, or telephone on 01-253 4399 ext. 3035.

We are an equal opportunities employer.

PUBLIC FINANCE

HEATHERWOOD HOSPITAL, ASCOT, BERKSHIRE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

£22,769 PA + P.R.P. relocation expenses and lease car

Exciting changes are facing this acute unit in terms of major service development and implementation of the NHS White Paper and the Resource Management Initiative.

As Director of Finance you will play a leading role in your future success by working closely with the General Manager, clinicians and others, to shape our financial management (budget £16Mpa). You will bring your expertise to investment decisions, business planning and to contracting arrangements in the "internal market".

You will require excellent financial and interpersonal skills in order to bring about change successfully. An appropriate qualification or substantial progress towards one is expected.

Informal discussion is welcomed by John Neate, General Manager, on Ascot (0990) 23333 ext'n 2011.

Information pack from Personnel, Heatherwood Hospital, Ascot, Berkshire, SL5 8AA - ext'n 2388 (24 hour answerphone).

We are an equal opportunity employer

East Berkshire Health Authority

Worcester's new cricket water torture

Private game a welcome rest

From Richard Streeton, Harare

After their crushing one-day opening fixtures in this country Zimbabwe B are once again a

Indie are denied

India are denied

Zimbabwe B are once again a mixture of experienced one-day players and promising members of the younger school. Goodwin, who made an impression at Mutare, has a chance to force his way into the Zimbabwe team at the weekend.

Suddenly, though, Zimbabwe cricket circles have been rocked by news that these determined, young English professionals, could prove too good for home players, who basically remain part-timers. There's clearly a lack of depth in Zimbabwe cricket, and it will not be easy for them as they tackle a five-day series for the first time.

ZIMBABWE B: J P Brent (captain), K H M Krausz, J J Jernett, W Joseph, G Goodwin, D Lukwika, P Elliott, D Dolrom, D Braks, C Webb.

NEW ZEALAND: R T Campbell, S Marsh, the New Zealand team unbeaten in a series at home since 1978-79 after drawing with India in the third and final Test match at Edenburg Park yesterday. The series 1-0 by virtue of the 10-wicket win in the first Test at Christchurch. Rain ruined the second Test at Napier which was drawn.

Rain overnight had delayed the start of play for 45 minutes and it intervened later on the fifth and final day. New Zealand, resuming at 416 for five and leading by 325 runs, declared their second innings closed at 483 for two and left India an impossible target of having to score 393 runs to win.

New Zealand never had hit 15 fours and two sixes. Thomson was on 43.

Wookeri Raman and Manj Prabhakar shared an unbroken partnership of 119, but it was for the first wicket in the series before play was called off with 10 overs remaining to bowled.

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings 591 (P 173, R 1 Hardies 87).

Second Innings
J J Franklin low Prabhakar
S Marsh 100
A H Jones not out
D Laker 10
M J Gower 10
M J Gurnahar & Gurnahar & Wesson
K Rutherford & More & Harvati
New Zealand 1st Innings 591
Edwards (4, 10, 14, 12)

Total (5 wickets dec)
FALL OF WICKETS:- 1-7, 2-195, 3-384.

Australian vice-captain, has satisfied the selectors he is fit for the tour of New Zealand, which starts on Thursday (AFP reports). Marsh said yesterday he was feeling fine after returning from his lay-off Sunday following a five-week lay-off with an injured thumb.

© Robert Pook, the Essex all-rounder, has joined Glamorgan

in only four days.
The two overnight batsmen,
Andrew Jones, who had scored
144, and Shane Thomson, with
eight, added 67 in the morning
session. After the declaration
was made by the English captain,
New Zealand captain,
uses before lunch. Jones had
reached his highest Test score of
170, scored in 10½ hours; and

BOWLING: Kapil Dev 3-4-101-6; Warne 3-8-91-1; Hastings 2-5-38-3; Ashwin 2-3-35-3; Woodhouse 2-4-36-3; Mervyn Dillon 2-4-35-3; Neil Harvey 2-4-35-3;
HINDI: First innings 82 (M Ashardur) 120A, 2nd session S K More 50.

Second Innings

M V Ramani 10-1-35-1
W Prabhakar 10-1-35-1
Srinivas 10-1-35-1

BOWLING: Hadzic 4-1-0-0; Morrison 7-0-0; Snedden 12-1-28-0; Thomson 5-0-0; Gifford 2-0-0-0; Atherton 3-0-0-0; Graydon 1-2-0-0;

SMOKED

		SNOW REPORTS						
		Depth (cm)		Conditions Piste Off/P		Runs to resort	Weather + temp (°F/m)	L C
		L	U	Piste	Off/P			
ANDORRA <i>Soldeu</i>	20	100		fair	crust	poor	fair	4
	<i>Good skiing on higher slopes but becoming worn and slushy lower down</i>							
	26							
AUSTRIA <i>Oberberg</i>	15	85	135	good	varied	good	cloud	1
	<i>Excellent skiing conditions</i>							
	16							
FRANCE <i>Les Arcs</i>	25	75	80	fair	heavy	slushy	snow	3
	<i>Heavy snowfall above 1800m, rain below, no quakes</i>							
	26							

During his triumphant reign in Blackpool, when Steve Davis, "I am already feeling much better, my concentration was

Ireland, was briefly delayed on his way to the fifth round despite taking a 4-0 lead over Murdoch MacLeod of Scotland.	
RESULTS: Fourth round (England v France) S Jameses 6 at Wintress, 5-0; D Taylor (R) lost to M Tabor MacLeod 1-0; Ireland v Scotland (SA) at A Whitins, Wintress, 5-1; S Davis vs D Morgan (Wales), 5-4.	
ITALY	
Cervinia 150 300 good varied good snow 0 26 Plenty of good skiing, link to Zermatt open	
SWITZERLAND	
Crans Montana 20 200 good varied worn rain 3 16 Good skiing, but little snow	

ASH FIRE SERVICES (Military Fire Stadium, Aldershot) 150 150 150
ENGLISH SCHOOLS TROPHY: Semi-final: Sheffield v Liverpool for Brentall Lane 7-20.

RUGBY UNION
CLUB MATCH: Newton v Mosley (7.15).

RUGBY LEAGUE
SALON LAGER ALLIANCE CUP: Quarter-finals: Bradford Northern v Queens 7-30.

OTHER SPORT
BOWLS: World indoor championships (Preston).
HOCKEY: University match. (Willesden).

Gstaad 0 170 slushy heavy closed rain 6 16/
Glacier closed, limited sking
Klosters 20 150 good spring slushy rain 6 16/
Very good skiing upper slopes, lower slopes patchy and
St Moritz 20 60 good varied fair snow 1 26/
Excellent skiing upper slopes, some warm patches lower slopes
Verbier 120 280 good varied slushy rain 8 26/
Snow in good condition on higher runs, snowing above
Wengen 0 50 very good closed rain 7 16/
Slopes are now generally very warm, snow expected overnight
Zermatt 140 180 good varied warm snow -1 26/
Good piste skiing in poor visibility, gales light

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

[illegible]

3 and Q Scottish League

2:00P: **Motor Sports:** 2-4pm: Highlights of the NASCAR Daytona 500; 5-8pm: Highlights of the 1989 Formula One and IndyCar racing season; 8P: **Autos:** **Save America's 30pm:** Highlights of the Bahamas World Cup

SHOOTERS: TV: 1.30-3.25pm and 10.25pm-12.30pm. Coverage of the Pearl Islands Breeze Open from the Assembly Rooms. Swire.

TENNIS BOWLING: Screensport: 8.45-10pm: Highlights of the 1999 Winter Tour. UPDATE: Screensport 7.30pm.

14-00000

[illegible]

St Helens to seek retribution

By Alan ...

There is a ...
Heart ...
seas ...
Can ...
there ...

St Helens ...
due to ...
their ...
policy ...
deter ...
dislike ...
Six ...
person ...
Prou ...
Oth ...
club ...
other ...
victor ...

[illegible]

ICE HOCKEY

Durham open the season for Cardiff to suit

By a Special Correspondent

[illegible][illegible]

